Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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Maine Farmer.

HOMAN & BADGER, Publishers.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man.

Forthcoming Meetings.

MAINE STATE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY: Meeting for the reading of Papers and Discussions, with a Winter Exhibition of fruits for naming and comparison, at Augusta, Wednesday and Thursday, January 28th and 29th, 1874.

MAINE POULTRY ASSOCIATION, at the City Hall Portland, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Jan. 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th, 1874.

PENOBSCOT POULTRY SOCIETY: Third Exhibition, at City Hall, Bangor, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 16th, 17th and 18th.

A Call.

All who are interested in Dairying in any of its branches, are invited to meet at the time and place of the annual meeting of the Board of Agriculture, for the purpose of organizing a "MAINE DAIRYMAN'S ASSOCIATION," for the encouragement, protection and advancement of all branches of dairying in our State.

(Signed) J. W. LANG,
S. DILL,
S. G. FOSTER,
DANIEL SPOONER.

The Conservancy of our Forests.

Few subjects are of so universal importance as the protection of our forests. Trees are things of slow growth—it takes a lifetime to grow a pine or an oak, and when cut down they can only be replaced by the planting or preservation of other trees, and by protecting their infancy and sparing their growth for another generation. And as trees grow in all countries, are needed for the health of all nations, and are indispensable in the industries of every people—their preservation becomes as just stated, a matter of universal concern, and one in which all nations may most appropriately unite to carry forward. This work has been inaugurated by the recent holding at Vienna, of the International Congress of Forest Culturists, at which the Italian, Belgian, French, German, Dutch and Hungarian governments were represented—by a delegation of nearly four hundred members—and where the preservation of the forests as a protection of the water supply formed the chief topic of discussion. The deliberations of this body brought out such facts and statements as the following: Many rivers in the old countries have shrunken to small brooks, and others are essentially dry. In Palestine the springs are dry, and the river Jordan, is now four feet lower than in former times. Greece has suffered in this respect from the cutting down of the forests; in Hungary the drouth is periodic; Sardinia and Sicily are less fruitful than formerly. Now on the other hand, what have been the positive results from the planting of large numbers of trees in such districts? In the Delta of lower Egypt, there were formerly but five or six days of rain in the entire year. By the planting of twenty millions of trees, performed under direction of Mehemet Ali, the number of rainy days in a year has been increased to forty-five. Formerly, rain was unknown in Ismalia, a district on the Suez Canal—but since that canal was opened, and the land has become saturated with water, trees, shrubs and plants have grown, and this has steadily increased the number of rainy days throughout the district. And this marked change—from years of no rain to fourteen rainy days in a year—has been wrought in the short space of five years. Trieste, formerly a finely wooded region was long since devastated by the Venetians and twenty-five years ago rain had ceased to fall. To save the country from utter desolation the Austrian government planted seventy millions of olive trees in this section, and with similar results to those just mentioned.

To come nearer home. It has been stated on good authority that the rivers of New England have diminished in volume within the last half century, during which time the forests have been cut off to furnish fuel for our factories and furnaces and engines—and in many instances, manufacturers have been obliged to employ steam to drive the mills formerly operated by water. But if there are instances of this kind among us, there are also those just as marked in the opposite direction.

The conversion of the desert of Utah into a country of vegetation has already raised the level of the Salt Lake at least seven feet above its former level. Throughout Kansas, Utah, and Nebraska the planting of forest trees has produced a complete change in the climate of those States, and they are no longer blighted by drouth and scorched by the sun.

Foreign states have recognized the importance of controling this matter; and in Switzerland, Prussia and the German States the governments are pursuing not only a rational, but a legal mode for the protection of forests and the encouragement of tree culture. And it was to make general throughout the nations this action of a few of the States that the International Congress of Forest Culturists was held. Through this means it is to be hoped that the system of forest conservancy may become general, and that by a universal system one country may not suffer in consequence of the ignorance or indifference of another.

In our own State greater attention should be given to this matter. There is beginning to be a scarcity of wood and timber throughout the older portions of the State, and lumber-men each succeeding year are seeking avenues into the farther interior, for the purpose of obtaining large and small lumber of every description. About our older towns, and upon the farms that have been long cleared, there are acres upon acres of waste land, that could be devoted to no better purpose than to grow up to forest. And we believe the law of Feb. 29th, 1872, in regard to the exemption of taxation from land devoted to transplanted forest trees, should be so changed as to include all land set aside for the growth of forest trees, in any town or township of Maine at the discretion of the town authorities.

American Journal of Science and Arts.

This scientific journal (founded by Professor Silliman in 1818) ended its 1st Series of 50 volumes as a quarterly, in 1845, and its 2d Series of 50 volumes, as a bi-monthly, in 1870. A Third Series in Monthly numbers commenced January, 1871. It is devoted to chemistry, physics, geology, mineralogy, natural history, astronomy, meteorology, etc., and forms two volumes, of over 450 pages each, annually. Editors and Proprietors: Professors J. D. Dana and B. Silliman. Associate Editors: Professors Gray and Gibbs of Cambridge; Newton, Johnson, Brush and Verrill of Yale; and E. C. Pickering of Boston. Subscription price $6.00 a year, or 50 cents a number. A few complete sets on sale of the first and second series. Address, Dana & Silliman, New Haven, Ct.

Maine State College.

Annual Meeting of the Trustees.

The annual meeting of the Trustees of the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, was held at Skowhegan on Thursday of last week. It was held at this point in order to secure the attendance of ex-Gov. Coburn, President of the Board, who has ever had a deep interest in the Institution, and who has been prevented from attending the meetings during the past year on account of ill health. The meeting was held at his residence, and Gov. Coburn presided throughout the entire day and evening. The meeting was largely attended, but one member of the Board being absent (in consequence of sickness) and at the election of officers for the ensuing year, Gov. Coburn was unanimously re-elected President of the Board, and Lyndon Oak, Clerk. Mr. Oak has been a most faithful and efficient officer, and has done much good service for the College. The Executive Committee consists, as last year, of W. P. Wingate, S. F. Perley and Lyndon Oak. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Examining Committee: Hon. Nelson Dingley, Hon. Sidney Perham, Hon. A. M. Robinson, Rev. S. F. Dike, and Hon. James M. Stone.

At this meeting the reports of the President of the College, Treasurer, and Farm Superintendent were presented. The report of the Trustees was also prepared, and the entire matter embraced in these several documents will, as usual, be printed in season to be presented to the Legislature early in the approaching session. The report of the President of the Faculty gives a summary of the work at the College for the year, in the several departments; showing that the one hundred students have been earnest in their work and their studies, and that the instructors have been most successful in their respective positions. Prof. Obert, a graduate of Cornell University has been called to the chair of Agricultural Chemistry. The report of Mr. Superintendent Farrington, presents the results of several important experiments that have been carried out during the year, to which we shall have occasion to refer hereafter. The report of the Trustees to the Legislature, gives a full statement of the condition of the Institution, and calls attention to some of its urgent needs.

Is Agriculture a Science?

The last number of the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, contains the conclusion of the elaborate report on the growth of barley on the same land, for a period of twenty years in succession, by Messrs. Lawes and Gilbert, the managers of the Rothamsted Experimental Farm. This report covers two hundred pages, embraces six sections, is accompanied by fifty-three elaborate tables, many of which take up twenty-seven columns of figures—the whole number of tables embracing more than seventeen thousand statements by numbers! When it is remembered that this report shows the results of twenty years labor, and that this labor has been directed to the elucidation of a single point in the growth of a single variety of grain; that this experiment has been carried on by two of the most learned chemists in the world—who need ask the question if agriculture is a science? And, thinking of this, is it any wonder, that there is so much of uncertainty to our agricultural science, and that the results of certain manures upon certain crops in certain seasons are so unsatisfactory, and often so contradictory? And when men of so high scientific repute as these gentlemen, devote nearly a quarter of a century to the elaboration of an experiment covering a single point in agricultural science, does it not show to all our students in the science of agriculture, that there is yet work enough for them to do in the untried paths of a study as grand as any within the whole range of human knowledge, one whose study will secure for them as high distinction as that capable of being bestowed by science while at the same time it not only confers practical benefit upon the farmer, but adds so much to the foundation of a science of agriculture—a thing which some men seem to think impossible. Let our agricultural colleges hammer away at the same point year after year, let the results be carefully recorded, and when this is done all over the country, THE SCIENCE OF FARMING becomes an established fact. We shall allude to some conclusions of this valuable report in another issue.

The Value of Feed.

We copy the following sensible suggestions from the *Prairie Farmer* for the purpose of enforcing one of its main hints upon all who have the care and feeding of farm stock. It is, that good care and good feed should be given all animals during the early portion of the feeding season. They need this more now than they will during the long warm days of March; for animals lose in flesh who are neglected in either the matter of care or feed during the early winter—and no farmer with a barn full of good hay can afford to let his animals lose flesh. This is the good advice of our valuable cotemporary:—

"No breeder should fail to bear in mind that nearly all the benefit of abundant summer feed may be sacrificed in a few short weeks of inattention or mistaken economy of food in the fall and early winter. All loss of flesh is a loss of money, and in fine stock, in the rearing of which improvement is sought, a loss of flesh involves an "advance backwards." Especially is this true of Shorthorns and Herefords among cattle, and of all other breeds of domestic animals whose value is chiefly for their flesh. Thorough breeding is not more necessary than thorough feeding; and the latter means a full supply of nutritious food during the animal's life as a breeder. Let no young herdsman be deterred from preserving in the practice of generous feeding by the bugbear of the "forcing system." Possibly one breeding animal in a thousand is injured by being fed too highly while not suffered to take the needful exercise; but if so, at least five hundred in every thousand fail to improve themselves or in their progeny, because their owners practice the "natural system." Remember that nature does not improve. Noah took into the ark just as good buffaloes, camels, deer and domestic animals as "nature" anywhere owns to-day. Progress is in the corn-crib, the blue grass pasture, and the never ceasing care of man, be the blood what it may."

A Useful Publication.

The Vermont Dairymen's Association—a young and vigorous organization which is doing a good work in that State—has just published its fourth annual report, embracing articles and discussions of great value to all interested either in the butter or cheese dairy. This volume has been printed through the liberality of Hon. Bradley Barlow of St. Albans, who bore the entire expense himself, only stipulating that the same number of copies be placed at the disposal of the State Librarian, as if it had been a State document. Such liberality is worthy of high commendation. For copies address, O. S. Bliss, Sec'y, Georgia, Vt.

The Poultry Premiums.

The "rooster men" as Uncle David would say, will no doubt be jubilant over the large number of "special premiums" announced in our columns this week, for the forthcoming poultry exhibition at Portland. They will also no doubt, crow again when we inform them that this long list does not include more than half the premiums offered by the Society, which embraces—in addition to these specials—more than a thousand dollars in money and fifty silver cups! This list of special premiums shows how great an interest in poultry raising is being manifested in our State, and it also shows how large a premium list may be gotten up by a little judicious soliciting, and considerable energy on the part of managers of any association—poultry or other. Now why may not our Pomological Society do something in the way of special premiums on a plan similar to that adopted by the officers of this association? Let different cultivators of grapes, pears, apples &c., offer special premiums, for their favorite fruit, and a large and attractive list could be made up. This has also been done in some instances at Horse fairs, by the owners of certain stallions, offering premiums for the best colts of their get. Our county societies might possibly work up some attractive individual or special prizes, in a similar manner, and while the amount of these premiums would be small in detail, they would form a great addition and be a decided help to most agricultural associations. The plan is certainly worth putting in practice and we think societies, both State and local, should try it.

Farmers' Meetings in New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire State Board of Agriculture has inaugurated its fourth annual series of public meetings for the discussion of agricultural topics; and the days for those to occur during the months of December and January have been announced. These meetings occur at some of the larger villages, and the more important agricultural towns in the State, and are limited to one day each, two and in some cases three sessions per day being announced. Some of the subjects announced for consideration are: The breeding and care of neat stock, sheep husbandry, the hygiene of rural life, manures, grass growing, market gardening, the education for farmers, agricultural machinery, the West not the place for New Hampshire farmers, the production and consumption of milk, irrigation, the adoption of crops to market, agricultural architecture, rural adornment, fruit culture, drainage—a suggestive list of topics, and one furnishing good thought-seed, for any assembly of practical talking, thinking farmers; and our own county associations and farmers' club's may find much in the list that is as applicable to our own, as to our sister State. Some member of the State Board of Agriculture will visit farmers' club's and other agricultural organizations in the State on invitation. James O. Adams, Secretary, Concord.

Fanny Pullen.

We have received several letters and statements from different parties in regard to the pedigree of "Fanny Pullen, the dam of Trustee the original twenty miler;"—and although the question may not possess any sort of interest to many of our readers, it is in fact one of much importance to the horse breeders of Maine. For these letters, statements and certificates we are indebted to several gentlemen in various parts of the State, and in a future issue shall condense and arrange them for publication, in such a manner as to present the main facts without encroaching too much upon our other reading. We have obtained possession of the papers of the late James A. Swan of Skowhegan, among which is a lengthy treatise on the horse written by this gentleman, some years ago, which contains many useful suggestions upon shoeing, care of colts, training, &c. We may possibly give some extracts from this MS. hereafter.

Editorial Notes.

Our readers will notice the call for a convention of Maine dairymen to organize a State Association, which appears in our present issue. The time and place will be supplied as soon as possible; and the organization will be one of great usefulness. Its formation can but receive the approval of every dairyman in Maine.

Prof. G. C. Swallow, in charge of the Geological Survey of Missouri, and widely known as one of the most eminent scientists of our country made a recent visit to our State College at Orono, and examined with great minuteness and with much interest, every department of the institution. He said that in many respects, particularly in the department of chemistry, the College had better facilities and means of instruction than any similar institution with which he was acquainted. Such an expression from so high authority shows the value of the laboratory and other apparatus for means of study provided by our State College.

We acknowledge the receipt of a half bushel of ears of corn of the Egyptian variety, raised the past season by Mr. T. B. Seekins of Pittsfield. Mr. Seekins writes that the season of 1873 was a cold one, very unfavorable for corn, but that with an ordinarially good year for this crop he is satisfied he can raise one hundred bushels per acre, of shelled corn, of this variety. We hope he will give it a trial another year and report the results. Farmers who receive their papers from our office are invited to take a few ears of this corn and give it a trial.

A gentleman in Minnesota, who is largely interested in fruit growing enquires where in this State he can obtain scions of the "Peach Apple." Parties interested can address O. F. Brand, Faribault, Minn.

We are informed that Mr. V. R. Turner, formerly of Palermo in this ounty, recently hauled on Truckee river, California, at the lumbering camp of A. Clough, a load of logs that scaled 9355 feet—the load being hauled with five yoke of oxen. The statement is verified by many credible witnesses, and we doubt if five yoke of our Kennebec oxen could do better.

We take pleasure in commending HEARTH AND HOME as one of the ablest, purest, and most carefully-edited of the literary and home weeklies. Its stories are not of the trashy, sensational character, yet are of absorbing interest, and will be read with pleasure and profit by every member of the family. Its editorials are always timely, able, independent. The best American and foreign writers contribute to its columns; and, take it all in all, it is as near a perfect home paper as is published in this or any other country. Orange Judd Company, Publishers, 245 Broadway, New York.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes from the Farm.

Second Series---No. 1.

On the whole the season has not been a very favorable one for the farmer. The profits must fall below the average when compared with those of the last ten years. This ought not so to be. We ought to be making some progress; we ought to be doing better. But the facts or the fates are against us. We work just as hard, aye harder, for hired labor is scarce and sometimes not to be had, and every farmer and farmer's boy must put their hands to the plough and work early and late, if they wish for profit or hope even to make both ends of the year meet.

Let us take a short retrospective view of the season. We all know that the grain crop was very light. Not many farmers will have either barley or oats to sell. Wheat did poorly, in some instances so poorly that but little more than the seed was obtained. Corn also was backward and proved a light crop. Potatoes are high, but generally farmers have but few to sell. Of apples, there are almost none for the market; what few there are go slow and hard. There is one crop, however, of which there seems to be enough and to spare, and that is the hay crop. Let us be thankful for that. Let us be thankful that there are no pinching times ahead, but plenty of hay on hand for all the stock in the State and some to spare.

But what of the "to spare"—what of the surplus? What are we realizing for it; anything at all in proportion to what we ought to have? For the past few years, many farmers in this State have had to buy hay at twenty, twenty-five and even thirty dollars per ton. Yet we all hoped the times would change, that the boot would come on the other leg; so we waited and hoped and hoped and waited; we brought manure and ashes and plaster, and with these we top-dressed and otherwise enriched our lands and waited patiently for the future. And it has come and we haul hay to sell, but nobody scarcely wants to buy, and it is dull and low-priced. That is the result.

Not the result, though, of man's operations, but the result of a natural law, the law of regulation or supply and demand. But what are we to do about it? Growl and grumble because things are no better? By no means. Sell what we have *to spare* at a fair market price, and return all we can of *that surplus* in the shape of manure, ashes, lime and plaster back to the land, and abide our time, for the time will surely come when we can sell hay for higher prices, perhaps $25 or $30 per ton. He, who takes from his land, year by year, more than he pays back may possibly live to regret it, but he who can sacrifice present profit for future benefit and can also wait patiently, will sooner or later reap his reward. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

Passing through the streets of Augusta one day, I noticed an elderly gentleman unloading hay at one of the city stables. The hay appeared to be first quality. As the gentleman bore a pleasant countenance I took the liberty to accost him thus: "My good man can you tell me what good hay, loose, is bringing in this market?" "My dear sir," he said, "you can hardly sell a load of hay in this city; why, it is only $14 and slightly upwards for the very best." "Well sir," I said to him, "can we afford to sell hay in these times, at such prices?" "No sir, we cannot," he remarked, "and I am *tired and sick* of raising it." These were the precise words of the old man. Now the question naturally enough arises, at what price can we afford to raise hay? What may be considered a fairly remunerative price? As this paper is already long enough, I will attempt an answer in my next, and also whether we can any longer profitably raise corn, wheat or even potatoes.

W. P. A.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Few Fixed Facts in Farming.

If New England cannot compete with the great West in growing grain or cattle raising, it is equally true that the great West will never be able to furnish butter, cheese and apples for her own consumption; and these we can supply for her, if we only set about it.

New England farmers *can*, by deep plowing, liberal manuring and early sowing, raise bread sufficient for their own families—merchants and manufacturers must look to the West for theirs.

A severe drouth is the largest and most useful of all suction pumps, by means of which essential, mineral fertilizers are brought up from a great depth in the soil, having been carried down by infiltration, from the surface, by rains; and thus become the means of enriching the soil.

One ton of hay, cut and cured in June, is worth more than two or three out in August.

The extensive cultivation of potatoes will never make a farm or its owner rich, except at the expense of his children or grandchildren.

Our rough, rocky hills should never be cultivated for crops, but should be allowed to grow up to forest timber; and if so allowed, will, in no distant future, become the most valuable part of our farms.

The best time to seed down grounds to grass is in the months of August or September.

Pasture lands and orchards should never be plowed.

Barn cellars, if not a nuisance, are, at least, of questionable utility; and farmers are becoming dissatisfied with them.

Fruits of all kinds, when bearing abundantly, should be severely thinned out at an early stage in their growth; thereby affording a crop quite as great, and far better in quality.

Mulching for fruit trees takes the place of manure and timely rains; but it is little understood and less practiced.

Subsoil plowing affords the best security against drouth, and is worth much more than it costs.

To cart out manure on the fields and leave it in heaps is too expensive; causing a loss in the subsequent crop, and a loss of labor in the first place.

Improved breeds of cattle should be selected with a view to making butter and cheese, rather than beef.

Sunlight is next in importance to good food for all kinds of neat stock, and for fowls; he who knows how to secure the most of it in winter, without going out of the barn for it, is lucky, to say the least.

Reading and thinking farmers cannot afford to do without the winter.

G. W. G.

Cornish, Nov. 29th, 1873.

For the Maine Farmer.

Cumberland Farmers' Club.

We have an organization in Cumberland called the "Cumberland Farmers' Club," with sixty-five members. The officers consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian. It has been organized five years this month. We have held five Town Cattle Shows, and they have been considered successful by us. The Club holds weekly meetings through the fall and winter, and some meetings during the spring and summer. The officers of the Club are E. G. Prince, President; A. J. Osgood, Vice President; Wm. S. Blanchard, Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian. We have 250 volumes in our library, part of them got by clubbing for papers, and part from the State and U. S. Government. We have $80.00 in funds which makes a good nest egg. We also own a thoroughbred Short Horn bull, Prince Harold, purchased of Mr. L. A. Dow of Waterville. He is now 22 months old and is a very nice animal. His color is roan and he girths over six feet.

W. L. B.

For the Maine Farmer.

Maine Dairymen's Association.

We hope those who are in favor of the above organization being made a permanent and actual power for good, and all who desire to aid its progress will briefly so express themselves through the FARMER. Several have already done so, but we can but believe that there are very many more who earnestly desire that the Legislature incorporate such an organization, that the farmers and dairymen may profit by it. A word from one and all who are interested in this branch, would give strength to the movement and send it off with vigor. Friends of dairying in Maine speak out at once!

Brooks. J. W. LANG.

For the Maine Farmer.

Agricultural Reports.

A Suggestion.

Having been for a long time in search for copies of some of the earliest Agricultural Reports of the State to complete a set of the same, and also to make out a full set for the proposed library of the Maine State Pomological Society, the volumes known as the "first series" being especially in demand, and not being able to find them in the hands of the present or former Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, it has occurred to me that from the manner of their distribution many copies may be scattered about the State in the hands of persons who have little interest in their preservation or have duplicates.

Now, as these Reports are of very great value, embodying much of the best agricultural literature of the State, and as I am informed that frequent calls are made for them, I would suggest that parties having copies (of the older volumes) which they are willing to part with, be requested to place them in the hands of the Secretary for judicious distribution *when and where needed.* And if this should fail to bring in the requisite number of copies, I would offer the further suggestion that the Legislature be asked to have the earlier series reprinted in one or two volumes of considerable size, corresponding in style to the present series. Every public library in the State, every farmers' club, and every intelligent agriculturist who aims to keep himself informed in relation to the progress and capabilities of the State, should have a full set of these valuable reports.

G. B. S.

Wiscasset.

NOTE. The suggestion of our correspondent is a good one. Not only are the volumes of the First Series of which he speaks, in frequent demand, but several of the volumes of the second series are nearly exhausted, and as complete sets are often wanted by public libraries and farmers' clubs it would be desirable to procure the bound volumes (containing both parts) for the years 1857 to 1867. It is possible that duplicate copies of these volumes may yet be in possession of county societies, unused; and if such is the case they would confer a favor by returning a few sets to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, Augusta, where they can be put to good use in making up sets of these reports for libraries.

For the Maine Farmer.

Letter from Waldo County.

November was wintry in all particulars and exceeded in amount of cold any preceding one for fifteen years. Stock were as early as Oct. 20th put on full winter feed. Farmers have improved the sledding to market products and get up wood. The recent thaw has left the fields mostly bare, and the roads are "neither wheeling or sledding." Grass looks finely where snow has gone off; as there was no frost in the ground it grew under the light, snowy covering. Hay is plenty, and large quantities are being marketed. Rich & Chase of our town, send some days fifty tons, over the Maine Central to Boston. They road is doing a good freighting and passenger business, and Messrs. Rich & Chase have store-houses at Thorndike, Unity and Knox, which with their ample accommodation at Brooks station, enables them to handle promptly large quantities of hay. They are eminent patrons of the R. R., believe in railroads, and we notice the "Doctor" gets cars when others are standing round whining about it. We presume this is because he "goes for them" and has business on his mind, which the railroad officials appreciate.

We trust our great export of hay is to be greatly reduced, if not stopped, by the multiplication of Cheese Factories, which is possible and probable. A meeting is to be called in December, at Belfast, to consult about our dairying interests, and for the purpose of organizing a "Waldo Co. Dairymen's Association"; success to home industries of the field and farm! Times have been rather hard for laborers since the panic begun, but we think they have felt it less than any other class. If so, this is an argument to stick to the farm.

We have always believed in Maine, and the letter from your correspondent about Florida—the land of flowers—deepens our conviction of the advantages of Maine, as a whole, over those of other States. We believe we can preach no sounder doctrine to our young men and women than "Maine for Maine men and women." It may seem strange to some, but truth is stronger than fiction.

Those predicting an *open winter* are jubilant with "There, I told you so!" just now.

Brooks, Dec. 5th. J. W. LANG.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes from Penobscot County.

After about three weeks of good sleighing and some pretty smart winter weather, thermometer 25 below zero, we are again permitted a view of mother earth, and to-day (Wednesday, Dec. 9th) is a disagreeable, wet and foggy day, with streets bare of snow and but little ice. The farmers have mostly got up their wood for another season during the sledding, determined not to be caught as they were last winter without sufficient wood to last them through the year.

The enterprising farmers here having for some time had on their thinking caps, have at last taken them off and making their adieu to the past, and their best bow to the present and future, have determined to have a cheese factory. At the first meeting the following board of officers were elected: G. L. Hersey, President; John Rogers, Secretary; Wm. B. Ireland, Porter G. Wiggin, Fred Fenderson, Chas. B. Wood, John Rogers, Directors. It was voted that the capital stock be placed at two thousand dollars, and the shares twenty-five dollars each. The amount being immediately taken up, at a subsequent meeting it was voted to raise the capital stock to twenty-five hundred dollars, which is in a fair way to be immediately taken up.

The building is to be two and one-fourth stories in height, 34 by 60 on the ground, to be clap-boarded and painted fire-proof color, and will be quite ornamental as well as useful. The directors have already contracted with Daniel W. Sylvester of this village, for the erection of the building for the sum of $1.212½ to be done by the 15th of May, A. D., 1874, which is a sufficient guarantee that it will be *done* and *well* done, as he is one of our most enterprising and trustworthy young mechanics.

Stetson. HOWARD.

For the Maine Farmer.

Fertilizers Lying Dormant.

There are many farmers who have been complaining that they have not realized any beneficial results from the application of their manures, during the past years of drouth, especially chemical fertilizers. Now the great trouble with such fertilizers, as well as stable manures, is no doubt caused by the absence of rain, for we know that it is actually necessary to render them soluble; therefore if such manures have not yet benefited the farmer, by the production of crops, they must remain dormant in the soil, and will sooner or later exert their full power. Last season (that of 1872,) when we had frequent rains, such lands as had shown but very little effect by the application of manures two or three years previous, produced well. And such farmers as had condemned as almost worthless such manners, began to think differently, and to have more faith in these fertilizers. I do not write this with the intention of saying that it is best to depend wholly on concentrated manures, for I do not believe this. But I do say that we can afford to use them as an addition to other kinds, or as a help to our farm resources for manures.

However, we must not expect to receive the benefit of our manures of any kind, if the season is not favorable to promote the changes necessary to reduce them to food for our crops; but we may flatter ourselves with the idea, that if we do not realize its benefits in one year we may the next, and if we do not get it in the grain crop we may in grass crop, and that sooner or later we shall get the full value of all the manures that we may apply to the soil.

A. E. FAUGHT.

North Belgrade.

For the Maine Farmer.

About Forest Trees.

I have noticed in your columns of late, one or two articles on forest trees, and I believe there is no subject more profitable to discuss than this. Forest trees are something which are now, and will be in the future, in great demand; and moreover they are something that are growing scarce at a rapid rate, and the best remedy I can think of at present for this, is the planting of them on the condition that the law shall protect them. Indeed, I believe that the law can protect, in a great measure, forests that are now standing, as it could certainly forbid the *wasting* of *timber*. And here I would say that a great deal of wood that might be used for fuel, and a great deal that might be used for timber, is wasted; especially in sections of the country where forests are plenty. And it is wasted in more than one way. A large quantity is floated away in the rivers; considerable is left on the ground to rot; and a *great deal* is unintentionally set on fire by careless hands. A great many people also, who are blessed with an abundant supply, use more than is necessary for fuel. Therefore, we can plainly see, that with what is wasted in different ways added to what is used for necessary purposes, our wood and timber is fast diminishing. Our hills are fast being stripped of their beautiful growth, and if we make no effort to the contrary the time will soon come when we shall look upon them and see naught but stumps and bare ledges. Let us awaken to a sense of duty in this respect. ZENO.

South Bridgton.

For the Maine Farmer,

Agricultural Intelligence.

A Late Brood.

The 1st day of last October my China goose commenced laying and is still laying. I set a Brahma hen on seven of her eggs and last Saturday, Nov. 29th, she brought out five fine goslings which are doing nicely. Is not this an unusual case? At least I never heard of a like one. Will not some of your numerous readers inform me if they have?

Calais. H. H. KING.

A Big Porker.

B. P. Upham, Esq., of South Liberty, slaughtered last week, a pig nineteen months old, which, when dressed weighed 803 pounds. Who will do better?

Liberty. B. J. H.

Sales of Thoroughbred Stock.

I have recently sold the following thoroughbreds: To the city of Augusta the two-year-old Jersey bull, Martel, 742 H.R. A. J. C. C., bred by Dr. N. R. Boutelle of Waterville; to Seth Andrews of Warren, the cow, Mayflower, (Dr. Holmes' stock, Winthrop); to Edwin W. Anderson of Warren, a Cotswold buck and ewe; and to A. L. Vaughan of Warren, a Cotswold buck lamb and ewe lamb.

East Jefferson. JAMES W. NORTH, M. D.

A Good Yield of Wheat.

Mr. W. P. Blake of West Waterville, raised the past season eighty-five bushels of nice winter wheat from five bushels sowing. [Hear! Hear!—Ed.]

A. E. FAUGHT.

Associated Dairying.

All persons interested in associated dairying in Waldo county, and especially officers and members of cheese factory companies already organized, and those thinking of organizing such associations, are invited to meet in Johnson's Hall at Belfast on Saturday, Dec. 20th, 1873, at 10 o'clock A. M., for discussion and consultation, and to decide in regard to organizing a County Association. There are eight cheese factory companies in our county, either organized or ready for organization, and there are so many vital matters pertaining to the subject, in which all are interested, and with which many are yet unacquainted, that some such an opportunity for obtaining information and comparing notes is thought to be necessary.

GEO. E. BRACKETT, Member Board Ag'r.

Belfast, Dec. 5th.

Farming News in Eastern Cumberland.

Several members of the different Farmers' Clubs in Brunswick met at the vestry room of the village Methodist church in that town, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 3d, for the purpose of organizing a central Farmers' Club. The meeting was called to order, and Mr. J. H. Moody chosen chairman. Addresses were made by Messrs. C. J. Gilman, L. & W. Simpson, A. G. Tenney and others. A committee consisting of A. G. Poland, L. Simpson 2d, and Jos. Stetson was chosen to submit a plan for organizing an Agricultural, Horticultural and Floricultural Society, and report at an adjourned meeting to be held at one week from that date. It is hoped a deeper interest may be awakened on the subjects discussed at these meetings.

For the past two weeks we have had good sleighing and extremely cold weather for the season. The thermometer stood below zero six mornings in succession—from Nov. 27th to Dec. 2d, inclusive—a rare occurrence in this vicinity in mid-winter The rain-fall in November was two inches and two-tenths. Snow fifteen inches. Highest thermometer 68°. Lowest 11° below zero. M:

Brunswick, Dec. 5.

Note from Minnesota.

We prize the FARMER as highly as ever. The season has been very changable, very hot, cold, wet and dry, by spells. Crops quite good. The potato bugs troubled us a great deal. There is so much lumber on hand they do not put in but half their teams this winter. On a careful estimate there is twenty-five acres close packed twenty feet high with logs, at this place.

Brooklyn, Minn. A SUBSCRIBER.

Worms in Colts---Query.

Can you or any of your correspondents tell me what will cure colts of worms? I have one that is troubled with them very much. They are the pin worms, and keep her poor.

Argyle. A. M. K.

Large Pigs always in Order.

Mr. Asa Ward of this city, killed a White Chester pig 7 months and 7 days old, which weighed when dressed 347 lbs.

Query about Red-top Seed.

I would like to inquire through your most valuable paper how to manage Red-top, and in what proportion to mix with other seeds to use on wet lands in seeding. Will not some one please inform us and oblige W. A. S.

Augusta.

Bangor Farmers' Club.

This club has been in existence four years, and has lately re-organized for the winter, with Timothy Emerson as President and Rufus Prince as Secretary. Annual membership fee, $1. It has a library of about fifty volumes.

North Bangor.

For the Maine Farmer.

Register of Maine Horses.

Names Claimed.

LADY SPEEDWELL, for my brown filly foaled June 12th, 1873; by Phil Sheridan; dam, by Hampton.

DOLLY GREY, for my roan mare foaled April 18th, 1872; by Phil Sheridan; dam, Morgan.

PRINCE EDWARD, for my bay Knox colt foaled April 20th, 1873; by Phil Sheridan; dam, Morgan. A. G. THURLOW.

South Poland.

Name Claimed.

BILLY PATCHEN, for our stallion got by Tom Patchen out of the well known Leavitt mare of Portland; color black with white hind feet and strip in face; foaled July, 1870.

North Harpswell. BISHOP & ALEXANDER.

Name Claimed.

LADY ADA DULETH, for my red gray mare, seven years old last spring; got by the Brackett horse, afterwards known as Butcher Boy. Bred by Walton Withee of Anson out of a Morgan mare. Weight 1200 lbs., height 12 hands. CHARLES W. SHAW.

Starks.

Name Claimed.

STONY BROOK BELLE, for my mare colt foaled June 1872; color bright bay, black mane and tail; got by Woodbrook Messenger of Houlton; dam, unknown.

H. H. KING, Proprietor Stony Brook Farm.

Calais.

Woman's Department.

The Farmer's Home.

We hope the length of the following beautiful poem will not prevent its being perused by all our readers. The picture it presents is faithful, and it will be recognized with joy by many city residents, whose hearts still turn to the "dear old farm," and the life there passed as one of the most precious things in memory's storehouse:—

The Farmer's Home.

BY CAROLINE A. MASON.

Come with me
Down this rude lane ablaze with golden rod,
And fresh with fragrance from the up-turned sod,
To where yon farm-house lifts its modest head,
By peace, content and health inhabited.
The tranquil kine, reposing in the grass,
Turn dreamy eyes upon us as we pass;
The shy sheep grazed askance, and chanticleer
Disturbs the silence with a lusty cheer
From the far barn-yard; sights and sounds are these
To make the saddest cheerful and at ease.
How full the quiet spot of sweet perfumes,
Aromas of fresh grass and clover-blooms!
How like a Sabbath stillness, or like prayer,
The contented calm of this sequestered air!
Amon the swinging scythe no profane is heard;
Anon the sacred, Sabbath calm is stirred
By sounding flail or woodman's axe anear
Ice-echoing through the forest sharp and clear;
The din old forest, where the children go
A nutting when the leaves are all aglow
Beneath the frost-king's touch. Such merry route
The little people tell of thereabout!
And then the huskings and the apple-bees,
The pleasant picnics underneath the trees—
What city belle can boast such joys as these?
But not outside the modest farm-house dwells
Its sweetest charms; that quiet roof-tree tells
Of love and trust beneath its humble dome,
And all that gladsand sanctifies a home.
Here the good housewife plies her cheerful tasks
From morn to eve, nor gilt nor guerdon asks,
Save the sweet payment of her husband's smile,
And God's dear love and health and strength the while.
Her rosy daughters, not too fine to soil
Their pretty fingers with the marks of toil,
With cheerful patience sew the lengthened seam—
Prepare the meal or churn the yellow cream,
Or lead the toddling baby that essays
Unequal steps about the household ways.
Or hasten to the door when daylight fails,
To unbuckle "father" of his brimful pails.
Thrice happy man, thrice happy father he!
His smoking supper ready, on his knee
The crowing baby, and around his board
Health and content, he may well thank the Lord!
Life has its trials, whatsoe'er our lot,
But if there be, on God's dear earth, one spot
Crowned more than others with His favors lent,
'Tis such a home as this; all sweet content,
All peaceful, heavenly influences meet
To purify, enrich and make it sweet.
Within, without, around it and above,
Good thoughts, like blessed angels, rove and rove.
The very cattle, knee-deep in the brooks,
Have lessons for us in their patient looks;
The silent hills, slow stretching far away,
The shady recesses where the lambs at play
In their cool bosoms, the rejoicing rills,
The sobbing of the lonely Whip-poor-wills,
The mysty glories of the purpling morn,
The night's deep splendor when the stars are born.
The corn up-springing 'neath the sun and rain,
The ripening fruitage and the nodding grain,
The changing seasons as they come and go,
Winter, the pilgrim with his coif of snow,
Spring the sweet charmer, Summer all ablaze
'Neath the rich dower of her meridian days,
And best of all, glad Autumn blithe and sweet,
Laying her wealth uncounted at our feet!—
Who, living out his peaceful life among
Scenes such as these, more eloquent than tongue
Of priest or prelate, who'if he be wise
To learn the lessons set before his eyes,
But shall imbibe the wisdom they impart,
And win the blessing of the "pure in heart."

Warming Our Houses.

The best means of warming our houses becomes, in a climate like our own, a matter of considerable importance; and the most economical, healthful and pleasant way in which it may be done, is certainly worthy of more study than is generally given it. For our own choice—we are speaking now of the living rooms, and not of the ever indispensable kitchen fire, where a good wood cooking-stove is the best thing of its kind—we should always prefer an open wood fire; either in a small fire place, an open grate, or a neat Franklin stove. But in very cold weather a grate will be found insufficient for thoroughly warming an ordinary sized living room. Many who have furnaces, also have a grate, for during the fall and spring there are many days not

By Charles E. Donnell—For the best trio of Dark Brahma chickens, bred in Maine, $5.
By Fred Fox—For the best pair White Swans, $10.
By Hezekiah Winslow—For the best pair Bronze Turkeys, $5.
By C. J. Pennell—For the best lot of Dressed Turkeys, $5.
By John Cooper—For the best trio of Silver Spangled Polands, $5.
By Size & Nevens—For the best trio of Golden Spangled Polands, $5.
By F. C. Nutter, Portland—For the best trio of Silver Pencilled Hamburg Fowls, $5.
By E. A. Wendall, Albany, N. Y.—For best trio of White Face Black Spanish Fowl—Oil Painting, life size, of White Face Black Spanish, by T. K. Van Zandt, valued at two hundred and fifty dollars.

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, December 20, 1873.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.
$3.00 in advance, or $3.50 if not paid within Three Months of the date of Subscription.

☞ All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date in connection with the subscriber's name will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞ A subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us the *name of the office to which it has been previously sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Collectors' Notices.

Mr. V. DARLING will visit Piscataquis County in December.

Mr. C. S. AYER will canvas Knox county during the ensuing month.

An Appeal to our Patrons.

The publishers of the Maine FARMER regret to be obliged by the unusual stringency of the times, to make an appeal to their patrons. Many of our subscribers are in arrears for the paper, the aggregate indebtedness making a very large amount, which we sorely need at the present time to defray the heavy current expenses of publication. Will our friends consider us in this emergency by promptly remitting either wholly or in part, the amount due to this office.

As an inducement to an immediate compliance with this request, we renew the liberal offer made to our subscribers last year, of which we trust all concerned will take advantage, viz:

All persons in arrears who will send us the amount now due, at the rate of $2 per year and two dollars in addition, shall receive credit for all past indebtedness, and for a year's subscription in advance. THIS OFFER TO STAND OPEN UNTIL THE 15th OF JANUARY, 1874. All payments made at this office, or by mail, or to our authorized agents previous to that date, will be credited in accordance with the terms above stated.

Parties in Spain.

While the general reader is aware of the fact that a triangular contest is going on in Spain, or in other words, that three parties are contesting for the control of the Government, there are probably but few who know how these quarrels, which have for many years arrayed countrymen against countrymen in deadly strife, had their origin. The Republican party, however, is an exception to the above statement, every intelligent reader well understanding when it had its origin and the causes which led to the adoption of this form of Government. But the terms "Carlist," "Carlism" and "Alfonsoist," which constantly occur in our foreign dispatches, while their significance is well understood by the student of history, may not be intelligible to the general reader.

Carlism, as pertaining to Spanish history, had its origin but little more than forty years ago, but the remote causes which led to the formation of this party, date back to the early centuries of Christendom. In the second and third centuries after Christ, several warlike tribes inhabited both banks of the river Rhone who were afterwards known by the common name of Franks, and from whom descended the French people of modern times. Among these tribes the Salians were the most powerful and this tribe often furnished a chief or king whose authority extended over all the other tribes. A code of laws was composed by the chiefs of the Salians which was written in Latin and which relates principally to the institutions, customs and regulations that prevailed among them. There was also a specific provision in this law that no female should inherit the crown or reign over the Franks. These laws are known as the Salic or Salian Code, and though great changes have taken place in the character and condition of this people, in the long centuries which have elapsed, this provision with reference to the succession is still the acknowledged law of the French Monarchy, and no female has ever occupied the throne of France. The provisions of the Spanish code respecting the succession which were established by the Visigoths, contained no such prohibition and there has never been any pretense that females could not inherit the crown.

Near the close of the sixteenth century Charles the second of Spain died childless, and in his will he bequeathed the succession to Philip the grandson of Louis the fourteenth of France. The disposition of the crown was not entirely satisfactory to all his subjects, and a war followed which continued for twelve years. In the end Philip was successful and held peaceable possession of the crown. Phillip was a Bourbon, and being closely allied to the reigning dynasty of France, he was French in all his instincts. With the consent of the Cortes, a body whose shadowy authority rendered it incapable of resistance, he changed the law of succession which had come down from the Goths, and introduced the Salian provision which excluded females from the succession. This act, as we shall presently see, is the proximate cause of the quarrels which have existed for over forty years.

At the death of Philip, his oldest son inherited the throne, but died without heir, and the succession passed to his brother Charles, who reigned as Charles the third. He in turn was succeeded by his son Carlos, the fourth. This monarch had a daughter who was married to the King of Portugal and had two sons; but the sons were weakly children and it seemed quite probable that neither of them would grow up to manhood. The King, fearing the throne would pass out of his family by virtue of the Salic law which his ancestor had enacted, obtained the consent of the Cortes and promulgated a degree known as the Pragmatic Sanction, which provided that in the event of a failure in the male line, his daughter Carlotta should be entitled to the succession. This virtually restored the principle of succession as handed down from the ancient Goths. But the two sons did not die and one of them succeeded to the throne with the title of Ferdinand the seventh. This King was married three times, and his third wife died, leaving him still childless. Fearful less the succession should pass to his brother Don Carlos, he married again, and to make the matter still surer for his succession, he re-issued the decree of Pragmatic Sanction promulgated by his father, with additional sanctions. In 1830, on the 10th of October, a princess was born, who grew up and became Queen of Spain with the title of Isabella. With the history of this woman's reign, how she alienated the people from her by her excesses and how she was driven from throne and country to make room for the present Republic, our readers are familiar. Still in exile, in 1868 she abdicated her right to the throne in favor of her son Alfonso, and this young Prince who shares his mother's exile is the person whom the Alfonsoists desire to place upon a re-constructed Spanish throne.

Before the birth of Isabella, when it seemed quite probable that Ferdinand the seventh would die without issue, he was strongly advised to bequeath his succession to his brother Don Carlos, who was a great favorite with the absolutists and, on account of his religious devotions, to the Catholic clergy.

During a severe fit of illness of Ferdinand, the absolutists, taking advantage of his condition, induced him to revoke the Pragmatic Sanction and thus cut off the succession of his daughter Isabella. Afterwards, on recovering his health, he re-affirmed it and in the presence of his ministers and the dignitaries of the crown, he protested against the violence which had been used, and solemnly declared that his daughter was the legitimate heir to the throne. A year afterwards he died and his daughter was proclaimed Queen under the regency of her mother.

Don Carlos still pressed his claims, and it was then that an open quarrel for the possession of the Spanish throne began between the rival claimants and their friends known as Alfonsoists and Carlists, and this quarrel still continues. The Don Carlos of that day has long since been dead and the quarrel is now perpetuated by a distant relative who styles himself Carlos the seventh. As between these rival claimants that of Alfonso rests upon the ancient law of the Spanish succession. It is true that this law was repealed by Philip, but it is equally true that it was restored by two successive Kings. The present Don Carlos is a mere pretender and is sustained by the church party only on account of his subserviancy to ist interests. We still have hopes that the present Republican form of Government may be sustained, but if it fails, for the sake of humanity and progress, we trust that it may not be succeeded by Carlist rule. The success of the Alfonsoists is far preferable.

CITY NEWS AND GOSSIP. Post Seth Williams G. A. R., will hold its annual meeting for the choice of officers on Saturday evening of this week. Comrades are requested to be present.—The office of the Coburn Land Co. has been moved to the corner of Bridge and Water streets on the same floor with the Kennebec Land & Lumber Company.—The County Commissioners are holding a session at the Court House for the settlement of bills against the county.—We learn that ticket sellers for the two courses of lectures are meeting with good success.—Dr. J. B. Bell is to deliver a short course of lectures on tumors, before the Boston University.—The ladies of the Winthrop Street Unisersalist Church had a successful sale of fancy articles of their own handiwork at Lancy's store, Tuesday and Wednesday.—In the action Bradbury against Cony with regard to the division line between their respective buildings on Water street, the Jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff.—The Annual Children's Party of the Winthrop Street Universalist Church, will be held at Meonian Hall Wednesday evening, Dec. 24th. In addition to the usual exercises there will be a Christmas tree erected, from which it is hoped a bountiful harvest of presents will be gathered.—Prof. Waitt has seventy scholars at the Commercial College.—The Gospel Banner is to appear in a new suit on New Year's day.—The boarders at the Kennebec jail have largely increased since the cold weather set in.—Catching tom-cods is now the pastime of the small boys and of some boys of a larger growth.—S. W. Lane has an orange tree 16 years old which now bears 125 buds.—John Kenney, an employe in the railroad shop, upon hearing that his pay was to be cut down ten per cent., went home and ordered his wife to deduct ten per cent from the size of the biscuits. The workmen in the shop caused a tin biscuit cutter, ten per cent. less than the size John used, to be manufactured and on Saturday presented it to John with appropriate services.—Wm. M. Thayer late of the Mansion House has not leased the Franklin House in Bangor as reported.—Rev. Dr. Ricker has a good copy of Sullivan's History of Maine which was once the property of the late Judge Perham of Bangor.—A. C. Hamilton & Co., have leased the house in Hartford square, and will keep a first-class boarding house.—Rev. Mr. Sanger who preached in this city Sunday, *is serving* his second term in the Massachusetts Legislature.—Number two of the Kennebec *Advertiser* published by O. M. Moore at the Standard office, has made its appearance. We learn that the first issue proved a paying investment.—Mrs. Siddons will open the lecture course at Granite Hall, Jan. 10th. The proceeds of this course will be appropriated to the establishment of a Public Reading Room.—The long established and well known firm of Bartlett & Hartwell has been dissolved by mutual consent. The bills are to be settled by the senior partner.—The sleighing is excellent in the city but the snow was blown off from the hills in the suburbs.—The heavy fall of snow has spoiled the skating.—George Hunt above the Post Office, has a fine assortment of fancy goods suitable for Christmas presents.—The present mail facilities between this city and Portland and Boston are admirable.—A retail dry goods firm in this city recently purchased $13,000 worth of goods.—Nine cents per yard is the uniform price for the best prints at the dry goods stores in this city.

☞ A correspondent at Albion informs us that Rufus N. Higgins of China recently visited his brother-in-law Edward Rollins, at Albion, and while there Rollins and his wife went out to call on a friend, leaving Higgins in charge of the house and a child about sixteen months old. When they returned they found the child in the cradle with his head hanging out over the foot asleep. When awakened he was very much chilled, as the fire had nearly gone out. As he warmed up he grew sick, and finally threw off from his stomach a quantity of old cider which his uncle had given him. But the uncle was missing and on searching the house it was found that he had decamped, carrying away $36.50 belonging to Rollins, also his best coat and boots and other articles of less value. He has not been heard from since.

☞ A shrewd business correspondent writes us giving a chapter of his experience of the value of newspaper advertising, through the columns of the FARMER and other papers. He says a six line advertisement was inserted by him in the leading weekly newspapers of the country, and during the past twelve months letters were received from 108,000 persons in answer thereto. The sensible conclusion to which he comes is as follows:

"There can be no plan adopted to *make* a business or to *increase* a business so rapidly as *newspaper advertising*. We have found it to be the great propelling power of the business world, and no business man can invest money that will pay so largely and rapidly as judicious advertising in the weekly newspapers of America."

☞ It was one hundred years ago Tuesday afternoon, that an important event occurred in Boston Harbor which has passed into history as the Boston Tea Party. The circumstances of the opposition to the tax on tea, and how citizens disguised as Indians went on board a ship in Boston Harbor and threw overboard three hundred and forty-two chests of tea, are matters too well known to be repeated. The event was commemorated by large tea parties in Faneuil Hall, Boston, in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, and in most of the other cities in the United States.

☞ The Portland Daily *Press* has very much improved during the past year and its enterprising managers are constantly adding new features. It now stands in the front rank of the dailies in the State. Through the associated press dispatches all its own specials, it presents all the current news of the day including commercial, marine, financial, &c. Those in want of a first-class daily paper need not go out of the State for it.

A PAPER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. The *Youth's Companion* of Boston, is one of the most judicious and enterprising sheets in the country, and in breadth of miscellaneous reading, has no superior.

Brief Editorials.

The testimony of experience is always far more satisfactory than mere theorizing. Woman suffrage has been on trial in Wyoming Territory for four years, a time sufficient to give it a fair trial. In his recent message to the territorial legislature, Governor Campbell said that according to his convictions, the measure, not only, had worked no harm, but had been attended by great good.

The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives have voted to report a bill repealing the present Bankrupt Law. There has been a feeling among business men for sometime that this law needed some amendments, but we are not aware that any considerable number have asked for its repeal; nor can we believe that the committee reflect the sentiment of Congress on the subject. There can be no doubt that some kind of an insolvent law is needed, and if the present one is objectionable, it should be altered or amended, but not repealed.

We have our usual batch of horrors this week. The waves of violence and crime have been running through the community for a long time, and still roll on. The tragedy at Charlestown was a terrible affair, and so was the one at the Westford town farm. These impress us more because nearer home, but those murders recently committed in the Southwest, show equal desperation and more malignity. This increase of capital crime is a subject which deeply concerns us all and the proper methods to be adopted for lessening them has become a grave question. At the ratio of increase of the past few years, the time may soon come when human life will be safe nowhere.

There is a fair prospect of the restoration of corporal punishment in the public schools of New York City, which was abolished a short time ago. The Board of Education appointed a committee of their number, to take the testimony and opinions of teachers upon the subject, and most of them being in favor of flogging, the committee reported in favor of restoring the rod. During the discussion upon this report, one member said he was flogged when a boy and now found himself exalted to a position on the Board of Education. Another said if it had not been for a flogging which he got in school, he could never have been a member of that body. If those men had been flogged a few times more perhaps they might have gone even higher and found places in the late ring. As a rule we are opposed to corporal punishment, but in these two instances we have no doubt their floggings were deserved and did an immense amount of good.

During two entire days last week the metropolis of Great Britain was so enshrouded in fog that darkness almost equal to that of night prevailed throughout the city. Floundering through mud and mire, the Cockneys were at length obliged to hire boys with torches to pilot them through the streets. Numerous collisions are reported among the small crafts which plyup and down the river, and carts and drays as well as pedestrians, steered clear of each other, with great difficulty. This fog extended far beyond the city limits and caused a collision between two trains near Birmingham. The obscurity was so great that the engineers did not comprehend the situation until a collision became inevitable.

It seems to us that nothing could have been more illogical than the action of the Court Martial in the case of Marshal Bazaine. If he is guilty of the charges preferred against him, then mercy in his case is entirely out of place, and if he was not guilty, the Court have acted most wickedly in making up their verdict. It has often been said that Court Martials when ordered for special service, are expected in all cases to convict, and it may be that the Court which tried Bazaine thus interpreted their orders. He had been honored with the highest military rank, with the command of a great army; the safety and honor of his country were entrusted to his keeping, and according to the findings of the Court, he betrayed them both into the hands of her enemies. His age, his rank, his long military service, his honors for special achievements, which might, under some circumstances, plead for a mitigation of his sentence, all tend to aggravate his guilt. This is indeed a sad ending for one who rose from the ranks to be Marshal of France, and fought her battles for forty-two years. There are those who believe that he is to be sacrificed to appease the wounded pride of France. She has writhed terribly under her defeat and the humiliating terms imposed by Germany and is doubtless glad to find some scapegoat upon which to lay the blame. Thiers, the late President of the French Republic, declares that the charges were not proved, and much of the evidence which is reported to have created great excitement in court, was really of a trifling character. The Marshal is not to be shot but instead, is to be imprisoned for twenty years upon an island. If innocent, he can afford to bide his time and we predict that before the expiration of five years, he will be recalled and be received by his countrymen with distinguished honors.

When the late Vice President of the so-called Southern Confederacy rose to speak in the National House of Representatives last week, the deepest interest was felt and the entire House gathered about him. It was not so much the subject of his remarks that created this interest, as it was the fact that his voice had not before been heard in that Hall for nearly thirteen years, nor since he left Washington at the outbreak of the war of the rebellion, and joined the enemies of the Government. The fact that he is permitted to remain there and assume a place in the National Councils as the peer of Hawley, Garfield, Butler and others who fought to maintain the unity of the country, shows a magnanimity on the part of this Government, unparalleled in the history of the world. Bazaine surrendered a city which it is evident he could not hold, and goes into exile for twenty years, while one of the chiefs of a rebellion which cost a million lives and billions of treasure, goes unpunished and is allowed to resume a position which he traitorously deserted thirteen years ago. Stephens, supported by his crutch, with the other members grouped about him listening to his remarks, afforded a scene worthy of being preserved upon canvass.

And now a German professor claims to have discovered that oysters are productive of insanity. It is a well known fact that this popular bivalve is not a resident of German waters, and the professor in question was recently instructed by the German Government to examine into the practicability of transplanting them on the Prussian coast. His researches showed that the Prussian mud flats are finely adapted to oyster-planting, and that a hundred millions can be produced yearly. The report thus far was very gratifying to his countrymen who are great admirers of oysters, but their ardor was somewhat cooled by the announcement in the same report, that shell-fish of any kind, in the case of all those who do more bodily than mental labor, have a positive tendency to produce emotional insanity. The learned professor goes on to illustrate this point as follows:

"They have in America," he remarks, "a sort of political assemblage, called a clambake, where speeches, music and songs, ear interspersed with profuse feasts upon a species of oyster, called the clam. Vast crowds attend these celebrations, and no sooner are they gorged with the insidious comstible than they become full of excitement and furious; swear themselves away in fealty to the most worthless of demagogues; sing, fight, dance, gouge out one another's eyes, and conduct themselves like mad-men in a conflagration."

We have never attended one of these clambakes, but we had always supposed that it was the excess of fluids taken in on such occasions which rendered clamesters so hilarious, and we certainly thank the German savan for putting us right on the snbject.

COUNTY ITEMS. A correspondent writes that the house of Wm. Wyman of Litchfield, took fire Thanksgiving day, and was with much difficulty saved.—The Journal says that D. E. Page of Hallowell, while at work upon his ice house on Friday, was severely injured by the falling of a board some twenty feet, which struck him upon the head, inflicting a severe scalp wound, though not considered dangerous. It was a narrow escape from instant death, as a variation of a single inch would probably have resulted fatally.—Charles H. True, formerly of Augusta, and now editor of the Dakotah Republican, did not perish in the flames that swept over Vermillion, Dakotah, as feared. Letters have been received from him by parties in this State, dated several days subsequent to the fire.—The officers of Temple Lodge No. 25, of Winthrop, were installed Monday evening, Dec. 8th, by Dr. A. P. Snow, Past Master: Luther Cobb, M.; Elliot Wood, S. W.: B. P. Webb, J. W.; H. W. Longfellow, Sec.; S. Holden, Treas.; W. E. Whitman, S. S.; C. S. Kimball, J. D.; G. W. Shaw, S. S.; A. E. Wheeler, J. S.; Rev. A. Bosserman, Chaplain; C. Morton, Tyler. After the installation, about one hundred repaired to the hotel of W. F. Lovejoy, and indulged in a sumptuous feast.—As Horace Clement, son of Wm. Clement, of Monmouth, was returning from school on the 8th inst., he, in company with another boy, was handling a loaded pistol and by some means unknown to him, it discharged itself, and the bullet with which it was loaded went through Master Clement's hand, going in at the palm of his hand and coming out near the wrist.—The death of three members of the Society of Friends occurred in China last week, viz: Elijah Hussey, Nathaniel Austin, Sybil Jones, all, excepting the latter, well advanced in years. Their loss will be much felt, especially in the case of the latter. —The Waterville Mail says the railroad employes, whose pay has recently been cut down, were naturally somewhat excited, and held a meeting on Saturday evening to see what they should do about it. Certain compromising measures were proposed and committees of conference appointed, but it remains to be seen what will come of it.—The West Waterville Lecture course is succeeding very finely. Four lectures have been given and the Hall was well filled each time, the last was given Wednesday evening by Rev. J. Frank Lake of Amesbury, Mass., subject—"Camp, Field and Hospital." A two horse team belonging to James E. Cates, broke through the ice on a lake at East Vassalboro, Monday. The horses, valuable animals, were drowned, and Mr. C. escaped the same fate only by the coolness and earnest efforts of Edwin S. Bragg, who was working for him.—The winter term of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary has opened with one hundred and thirty students.—A couple of young men in Albion, are hunting and killing skunks, and on Monday they dug out and despatched from one hole no less than thirteen.—Oak Grove Seminary is enjoying a prosperous winter term.

THE VIRGINIUS. The steamship Virginius was towed out of the harbor of Havana on Friday morning by a tug-boat, escorted by the Spanish man-of-war Isabella La Catolica. She was taken to the small port of Bahia Honda 60 miles west of Havana, where she will be delivered by a Spanish man-of-war to a vessel of the U. S. Navy. The Spanish steamer Bezan sailed on Saturday for Santiago, where she will take on board the surviving passengers and crew of the Virginius and convey them to Bahia Honda, where they will be delivered up at the same time as the Virginius. Friday night a party of men numbering several hundred, assembled in Camp de Horte Square, and proceeded in a body to the Plaza de Armas, giving vent during their progress to their dissatisfaction at the departure of the Virginius by loud shouts and other disorderly demonstrations.

On reaching the Plaza de Armas they gathered in front of the palace of the Captain-General, where they renewed their shouting, at the same time expressing their disapprobation of the course of a number of prominent persons, who have favored the delivery of the Virginius. During these demonstrations several harmless shots were fired. It is believed that they were accidental.

Two Spaniards, who attempted to pacify the mob, were severely hustled. The crowd lingered in front of the palace until midnight when Captain General Jonvellar appeared and addressed them, and succeded in prevailing on them to disperse.

SALMON BREEDING AT BUCKSPORT. The remarkable success in hatching salmon attained by Mr. C. G. Atkins, last year, is well known, but it promises to be excelled by this year's operations. Mr. Atkins has put in the pond connected with the hatching establishment about the same number (600) fish, and has taken out the same number (400) each year. He would have taken out more this year but for the premature cold and ice. Last year he obtained 1,500,000 eggs; this year he has taken 2,300,000, but the breeding will probably be delayed by the early cooling, and the extremely low temperature of the water. He has 3,000 young California salmon that are doing well. These are all he saved from the 50,000 sent, as by an oversight the eggs for Mr. A. were delayed so long in transit that most of them were spoiled.

☞ Ex-Judge Nelson, whose death is announced by telegraph and which occurred on Saturday, was born in New York, November 10th, 1792. He graduated at Middlebury College, Vt., in 1813, and was admitted to the bar in Cortland county, New York, in 1817, where he practiced his profession with great success. He entered public life early and in 1823, was elected Judge of the Circuit Court. In 1831 he was made Judge of the Supreme Court of the State, and in 1837 Chief Justice of that Court, which position he held until 1845 when he was appointed Associated Justice of the United States Supreme Court by President Tyler. He retired from the bench in the spring of 1872.

☞ The Brunswick *Telegraph* says a lady in Topsham, on Friday, hid the powder horn in the ashes of an air-tight stove, to prevent her son from going out gunning. On Sunday a prayer meeting was to be held in the house; a fire was lighted in that stove, and it was not till it went with a bound to the ceiling of the room, almost carrying the boy with it, as he stood nearly astride of it, that the lady realized how extravagant had been her preparations to light up the social gathering. Fortunately no one was hurt.

☞ It is reported that the Eastern and Maine Central directors are negotiating for the purchase of the Portland & Oxford Central road, which extends from the Grand Trunk at Mechanic Falls to Canton. In the event of a purchase it is thought a connecting road would be built from Mechanic Falls to Lewiston or Auburn.

☞ The *Times* says that Messrs. Ichabod Goodwin and W. H. Y. Hackett of Portsmouth, and Ephraim C. Spinney, John Wentworth and Daniel Austin of Kittery, have been appointed trustees to carry out the provisions of the will of Miss Arabella Rice, who bequeathed thirty thousand dollars to the town of Kittery, for a public library.

☞ Prof. Louis Agassiz died at his residence in Cambridge, Mass., on Saturday evening. The public had been somewhat prepared for this announcement from the reports of his condition during the past few days. We shall give a more extended notice of the life and public services of this distinguished man in our next issue.

☞ A Boston paper predicts that within two months the consolidated European and North American Railway will be under lease to the Eastern Railroad Company, with Mr. Charles F. Hatch for the general manager for the entire line from Boston to St. John.

Editor's Table.

☞ What distinguishes Littell's Living Age is the fact, that with its weekly issue, and its three and a quarter thousand large pages of reading matter a year, it is enabled to present freshly and with a satisfying completeness attempted by no other publication, the best essays, reviews, serial and short stories, poetry, sketches of travel and discovery, and the most valuable biographical, historical, political and scientific information from the entire body of foreign periodical literature. It is therefore invaluable to American readers, as giving promptly and without abridgment, whatever is essential to them in a great and generally inaccessible bus indispensable current literature; indispensable because it embraces the productions of the ablest writers in science, fiction, poetry, history, biography, politics, theology, philosophy, criticism and art. The subscription price ($8 a year) is cheap for the amount of reading furnished. Published by Littell & Gay, Boston, Mass.

THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW. We received number one of the above periodical which is to be published bi-monthly, or six times a year, by A. S. Barnes & Co., of New York. The number before us has Articles on the late Panic, Fires in Cities, Deep Sea Explorations, Universal Education &c. It is printed on fine white paper, in large type and each number will contain about 150 pages. The publishers have engaged the best talent in America and this Review will be first class in every respect. Terms of subscription $5 per annum.

☞ The publishers of Scribner's Monthly enter upon the coming year with the means of making it more attractive and valuable than ever before to its large and increasing number of readers on both sides of the Atlantic. The serial story of the year entitled Katherine Earles, by Miss Trafton, is a Charming Love Story, by a gifted writer, and is destined to a wide popularity. St. Nicholas, an elegant juvenile publication is issued from the same office and both will be furnished at $7 per annum. Scribner & Co., publishers, New York.

LADY'S BOOK. Godey's for January is embellished with a fine colored engraving entitled "Arctic Winter." The Fashion Plates are finely executed and several pages are devoted to patterns for fancy work. The reading matter in this periodical is always interesting.

THE REIGN OF VIOLENCE. The most horrible of the many tragedies which have occurred of late in or near Boston, was enacted on Thursday morning in the Bunker Hill district, recently known as the city of Charlestown.

George U. Kimball, a blacksmith, about 50 years of age, who has for a number of weeks been employed in the forge works at the United States Navy Yard, had recently moved into and occupied a wooden tenement house on the corner of Park and Common streets. His family consisted of his wife Caroline, about 40 years of age, a step-daugeter, Miranda Wells, about 17 years of age, and one or two domestics, Mr. Kimball kept some seven or eight boarders, mostly employes at the Navy Yard, and is described by some who knew him as a sober, industrious man, prudent, careful, and a good provider for his family. These reports are not confirmed by others resident in the vicinity. A policeman, whose beat was formerly in Mystic street, where Mr. Kimball then resided, states that on more than one occasion he has been called into the house which he occupied, by cries of "Murder."

Thursday morning, shortly before 7 o'clock, Kimball walked to the top of the front stairs and called the boarders to breakfast. One of these soon after came down stairs, and looking into the sitting room saw Kimball, who was partly dressed. He had a razor in his right hand, and with this he motioned the boarder to go away. Apprehensive that he intended suicide, the person alluded to, went out and hurried to the police station in Harvard street, informing the authorities of the fact. Upon returning to the house immediately with others a sickening spectacle met his sight; upon the floor in the sitting room lay the body of Kimball, while a dark pool of blood discolored the carpet. His throat was cut from ear to ear. In a small bed-room adjoining the sitting-room was the dead body of his wife,—Caroline,—who had been strangled to death, while yet in bed. A further search revealed the fact that the throat of his step-daughter, Miranda Wells, had also been cut, having been mangled in the most horrible manner. All three were dead, and the scene was one which could not long be witnessed even by those who are not often affected by spectacles of this character. It is supposed that Kimball cut the throat of his step-daughter first and then strangled his wife, completing the terrible tragedy by cutting his own throat, as stated above. It is supposed that there was no doubt of Kimball's insanity. This, stimulated by jealousy, was the cause of the triple crime. Mrs. Kimball's maiden name was Stain, a native of Mt. Vernon in this county, where her first husband from whom she was divorced, we believe now resides.

BRUTAL MURDER OF SAILORS. A despatch dated at Apalachicola, Fla., Dec. 7th, says that a brutal crime was committed on board the brig Adeline Richardson, Crowley, from Kingston, Ja., to Apalachicola, Fla. The first mate, Oliver G. Moore, kicked two seamen to death—S. B. Nelson of Denmark, aged 18 years, (who, by the way, left the ill-fated Virginius at Kingston, an hour before she sailed for Cuba,) and Walter Tibbetts of Bath, Me., aged 22 years. The men lingered until they reached Apalachicola, and were then conveyed to the marine hospital, where they died on the 29th ult. Two coroner's juries held inquests over the dead bodies, and brought in verdicts that S. B. Nelson of Denmark, and Walter Tibbetts of Bath, Me., came to their deaths by inhuman punishment inflicted by the first mate, Oliver G. Moore. The mate has been arrested and is now in durance vile. The Adeline Richardson is owned in the Machias District.

☞ Col. J. F. Miller son of the late N. J. Miller of Portland, died in that city Saturday morning. He had partaken of his breakfast when he was stricken down, between eight and nine o'clock, and shortly expired. He had been in ill health we understand for sometime. Col. Miller was a graduate of Bowdoin College, class of 1856. During the war he was on Gov. Washburn's staff till 1862, when he was appointed Assistant Ad'j. Gen. with the rank of captain, and ordered to the Department of the Gulf. He was at different times, Acting Secretary of State of Louisiana, Mayor of New Orleans, Adjutant General of the Department of Virginia, and retired from the service in 1864. He was a member of the House of Representatives in 1865 and 1866.

☞ Last Thursday a buggy containing Mr. Shaw and his two sisters, Miss Shaw and Mrs. McIntire, residents of York, drove towards the track at Conway junction, as the train was approaching. Mr. Shaw jumped from the buggy to seize the horse by the head, and in doing so, slipped and fell. The horse became frightened and dashed across the track. The engine struck the buggy, throwing the ladies violently to the ground. Miss Shaw, was thrown a distance of twenty-five feet into a ditch. One of the ladies, says the Biddeford *Times*, had her back broken, and the other a leg badly crushed. It is rumored that one of the ladies has since died. Mr. Shaw escaped without injury.

☞ An unsuccessful attempt was made, on Friday night, to rob the safe in the store of Dyer & Curling in Skowhegan. The safe was in the Eastern Express office in their store and was used by them for their express and general business. The parties entered by a window in the office and after arranging for their escape commenced work on the safe with a drill. They were frightened off by the night watch, having accomplished little.

☞ In the Somerset contested election case, the Governor and Council decided to count in the votes of all the towns which elects Samuel B. Oraigin County Commissioner, and Columbus Steward Treasurer. The Governor has re appointed A. W. Wildes to the office of Railroad Commissioner.

THE VIRGINIUS SURRENDERED. Official dispatches state that the Virginius was promptly delivered to the United States Authorities, on Tuesday, and has arrived at Key West.

Items of Maine News.

The epizootic, in a mild shape, is affecting the horses in Bangor.

Capt. Daniel Milliken of Saco died very suddenly Tuesday evening last.

A new file factory is to be started in Bangor by English workmen backed by a capitalist.

An interesting Sabbath School Convention was held at Houlton last week.

Several large ships and other vessels are in process of building at Kennebunkport.

The Dexter farmers are talking about establishing a cheese factory in that town.

The Sentinel reports thirty-four bears killed in Wesley, the past year.

Three feet of snow fell in Peru during the month of November.

The lobster factory at Castine is still hard at work.

Union river is now open from the head of navigation to the Bay.

A military company is to be organized in Pembroke.

The Baptist Society in Biddeford are getting up a course of lectures.

Last week Mr. James Barrow shot in Ellsworth a loupcervier, or Canada lynx.

The life saving station at Biddeford Pool is approaching completion, and will be finished in a few days.

Abner Shepherd of Dexter, has been appointed Deputy Sheriff, in place of Joseph Shepherd, resigned.

The Bangor Whig says ship timber in large quantities is coming from the up river townships by rail.

The Dexter Gazette learns that the net proceeds of the Dirigo Slate Quarry, since last August, have amounted to about $2500.

The Lewiston Journal reports another young man who was nearly drowned on Thursday while skating on the river.

Edward Jones, Esq., of Franklin, who has been blind for five years, has had his sight restored by a successful surgical operation.

The Journal says there has been a reduction of ten per cent, in the wages in several shoe factories in Auburn.

A lad in Lewiston, was badly injured in the hand by the explosion of a ball cartridge, which he placed on the stove.

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Bubier, of Sabattisville, celebrated the 43d anniversary of their wedding last Tuesday week.

Edward Enns has been arrested in Bangor for stepping on a lady's dress, causing her watch to fall out, and then stealing it.

Mr. C. W. Hussey of Mayaville, sold one day last week to a Waterville gentleman, a two year old colt for the sum of $800.

The Bridgton News records several accidents from skating on thin ice, but, fortunately, none fatally.

It is said that the unfortunate women nearly suffocated at Skowhegan with coal gas, will lose their reason.

George Laflin has been arrested in Ellsworth for attempting to violate a young woman in that city.

A hen which was hatched in New Sharon May 5th, commenced laying Sep. 3d, and in thirty-seven days laid thirty-five eggs.

Notice is given that application will be made to the next Legislature for a railroad between Bangor and Portland, with the right to make all necessary connections.

Wm. Ash, claiming to belong in Portland, stole a pair of boots in Biddeford Saturday night. In default of $10 and costs, he is in Alfred jail.

The court house in Belfast was injured by fire Saturday morning to the amount of $1000. The fire caught from a defective flue.

A silver gray fox was caught in a snare in Vanceboro township, a few miles above the village, last week, by a man named Liscomb, who sold his skin for $15.

Lewis H. Noble of Pittsfield, has been held to bail for his appearance at Skowhegan for an assault with a knife, upon his uncle a few weeks ago.

The three robbers that attempted to enter the vault of the Bethel Savings Bank have been convicted and sentenced to five years in the State prison.

Sheriff Warren has so far recovered from the severe injuries he experienced last summer, that he can move about quite rapidly, with the aid of a crutch and cane.

Work on the bridges of the Lewiston and Auburn Railroad is progressing favorably. The Journal says the bridge to cross the Little Androscoggin will be put in place very soon.

The shipment of boots and shoes from Auburn and Lewiston the past week, were only 370 cases to 331 for the preceding week, and 788 for the corresponding week last year.

During the past week, Robert Sylvester has been appointed postmaster at Northport, Waldo County, and Geo. H. Gray at Wesley, Washington County.

The Calais Times says a man on the N. B. & C. Railroad was jammed into a space of four inches last Tuesday, by the bumpers of two freight cars.

The Grand Trunk wood shed at South Paris, was badly burned on the roof Wednesday forenoon. It is supposed the fire caught from a passing locomotive.

The burglar who entered the house of Mr. Mansur of Bangor, and stole his watch, has been arrested, and the stolen property found on him. His name is Daniel McClucky.

The citizens of Berwick contemplate giving Miss Hannah Wooster a donation party on the occasion of the 101st anniversary of her birth-day, Dec. 27th.

At the recent fire in the State Prison. Wagner is reported to have been the coolest man among the convicts, saying that he "wasn't born to be burned."

Some graceless scamp at Biddeford, Thursday morning, stole the bundles of the Portland morning papers that were left at the door of Burnham's book store by the expressman.

A lad named James McNamara, was drowned in Brookville last Friday night, while skating on Walker's Pond, by breaking through the ice.

The Times notes the fact that Rufus Knight has added himself to the list of those who get wounded by carrying loaded pistols in their pockets. The accident occured in Saco.

Another lot of salmon spawa will be put in the Androscoggin river next season. The Journal says the little salmon are abundant in the river, and were seen until the closing of the river.

The Good Templars of Rockland are agitated for a series of Sunday evening lectures on Temperance, from the clergymen of that city—the same as those in process in Portland.

One of the female school teachers in Dexter vindicated her authority last week by giving one of her pupils a good square horsewhipping for repeated violations of the rules of the school.

The Passadumkeag Railroad Co., will ask the Legislature for the right to extend their road westerly to connect with the Bangor & Piscataquis Railroad, and for other amendments to their charter.

Mr. Daniel G. Rich of Orland, quartermaster on the Cambridge, was quite seriously injured recently, by falling from the hurricane deck of the steamer while at the wharf in Rockland.

The Biddeford Times complains of the rowdyism of the crowd that followed the Sheridan Cadets of Portland, to that city Thursday. One man was locked up, and fined five dollars and costs.

Another victim took $60 worth of information in three-card monte on the Maine Central train Wednesday, but by a skillful grab secured his funds and left at Burnham for Belfast, closely followed by the monte man,

Wednesday night the new three-story store of L. Foss & Co., at Danforth, was destroyed by fire, together with most of its contents. The loss will probably amount to about $5000, on which there is a small insurance.

The pastor of the Second Advent Society at Baring, Rev. M. W. Corliss, has preached the present year without a salary, and has given about $100 toward the building of a new church at Milltown.

The Free Press says that a prisoner at the Maine State Prison, who was offered a drink on the night of the fire, preached a good temperance lecture, when he said, "No sir, that is what brought me here, and I have had enough."

The Lewiston Journal says the Turner schools are being taught almost exclusively by females.

Of more than twenty teachers, but four are of the sterner sex. Of the fifty-six teachers in Lewiston, fifty-four are women.

Early Thursday morning, a barn owned by James Cronin, and situated about a half mile from the Danforth station, was totally consumed, with a quantity of hay, two cows, a hog and a lot of farming tools.

The News says Mr. D. K. Barker of Naples, has commenced an action for damages against Deacon Stephen Barker of that town, for injuries received by falling from the scaffolding of the latter's new building last autumn.

A shipbuilding firm in Belfast have launched five schooners this year, have another already to go off, the frame of a brig up and the keel of a schooner laid. Next week they stretch the keel of their ninth vessel.

The Reporter says that a little son of Simon Grover of Skowheg

Congressional Summary.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 10.

SENATE. Mr. Sumner presented a petition of colored citizens, asking the passage of the supplemental civil rights bill.

Mr. Fenton presented a petition of the Society of Friends, asking the appointment of a committee to regulate the traffic in alcoholic liquors, and asked its reference to the Finance Committee.

Messrs. Scott, Frelinghuysen, Sumner, Thurman, Conkling, Sherman, Morrill of Maine, and others, presented similar petitions to that of Mr. Fenton. All were referred to the Finance Committee.

The House bill granting general amnesty was read.

Mr. Sumner objected to a second reading of the bill to-day, not because he was opposed to general amnesty, but before it became a law he desired to secure to his colored fellow citizens their rights.

Mr. Sherman, from the Finance Committee, reported a resolution declaring it the duty of Congress during the present session to adopt measures to strengthen the public credit, and directing said committee to report at an early day a bill providing for the issue of a currency at all times redeemable in gold or its equivalent.

Mr. Bayard presented the views of the minority of the committee directing the Finance Committee to report measures at an early day for a return to specie payment. After debate the resolution was made the special order for Monday next.

HOUSE. Mr. Phillips of Kansas asked leave to offer a resolution, reciting the fact that a state of war has existed for some years in the island of Cuba; that under the excitement the Virginius has been seized, the American flag hauled down, and a large number of those on board cruelly massacred; declaring that in the massacre Congress recognized acts of barbarism unworthy of civilization; that the United States should use means to repress and check such cruel acts; that Congress reaffirms the doctrine that the occupants of any portion of the American continent or islands thereof, are the proper rulers of the country they occupy; that it is the duty of the United States, whenever the people of Cuba or any other portion of the American continent, indicate their desire to throw off their yoke, promptly to recognize and sympathize with them; that in view of recent events humanity dictates the early recognition of Cuban independence; that to countenance slavery in Cuba is inconsistent with and injurious to the civilization of the continent, and it is the duty of the United States to exert all means for its speedy overthrow; that all violations of our maratime rights or disrespect to the American flag, should be promptly met. Referred to Committee on Foreign affairs.

Mr. Scofield, from the Naval Committee, reported a bill authorizing the present number of enlisted men of the navy to be increased from 8,500 to 10,000. He said the Secretary of the Navy informed the Committee on Appropriations that he had not men enough to man the ships. He, for one, had not been very strongly inclined to make this increase for the present emergency, because he was under the impression it would not be needed.

Mr. Garfield offered an amendment providing for an increase of force, not to continue beyond the 1st of June, 1875. Mr. Garfield's amendment was adopted, and the bill as amended passed.

The House resumed the debate on the salary question.

Mr. Tremaine, (Rep.) of N. Y., spoke in favor of proposed reduction. He agreed with the report of the minority of the select committee in the statement that the increase of salary had been condemned by every class. He said this was a time when the members should be willing to make personal sacrifices. The country was passing through a crisis, and the agricultural interests, and the pressure of taxation to meet the national debt, was resting most heavily on the industry of the country. Referring to the disposition of some men to profit by holding public office, he said there was an extraordinary example of that class of public officers. He referred the House to one who had once been a member of that body, who subsequently held office in the city of New York, and who by means of conspiracy with other office holders, used public office for the aggrandisement of his own fortune. That man had suffered the penalty which sooner or later comes to punish those who violate the laws of God and man. Those who wished to profit by that man's example, might look in upon him in cell 34 of the penitentiary on Blackwell's Island. He appealed to the House to act with unanimity on this question, and to repeal the act of the 3d of March, 1873.

Mr. Hawley (Rep.) of Ct., addressed the House in favor of a reduction of salaries. He did not object to the increase given members of the Cabinet and Justices of the Supreme Court. He was perfectly willing that those officers who came to Washington and kept house in respectable style should have $10,000 a year. As to the President's, he had not voted to make it $50,000, and would not do so. He was sorry to see such a tone of denunciation or censure as prevailed in the House on this subject. It was below the tone of the nation. He would vote for a reasonable reduction of salary, and to give members what he thought they ought to have.

THURSDAY, Dec. 11.

SENATE. The Vice President being absent, Mr. Carpenter was elected president protem of the Senate.

Mr. Howe introduced a bill for the appointment of a commission to regulate traffic on alcoholic liquors. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Gordon of Ga., offered a resolution that as the abolition of the franking privilege tended to prevent the distribution of seeds to agriculturists, and the dissemination of books to the people, the Postmaster General should report how much was saved to the government by such abolition, by the reduction of employes and charges for transportation by railroads.

HOUSE. Debate was resumed on the salary bill. Mr. Stephens (dem.) of Georgia, was glad that the increased salary bill was a measure that neither political party was responsible for. Every Congress had, under the Constitution, a right to fix its salary, and its increase was necessarily retroactive, and the brightest ornaments in American history had subjected themselves to be denounced as salary grabbers and thieves. The last Congress had a constitutional right to pass the retroactive law, and no man should blush for it. In a speech then made he said that if the salaries of Representatives were $10,000, Senators $15,000 Supreme Chief Justice $50,000, Associate Justices $25,000 and President $100,000, it would be better for the country.

Mr. Garfield (rep.) of Ohio, replied to Mr. Stephens. When public opinion holds that the pay which Congress voted itself was too high, it was indelicate to resist that public opinion. He believed if there was paid the equalization of total payments under the old law, it would satisfy all reasonable demands of the public.

Mr. Dunnell, (rep.) of Minn., said the only way Congress could extricate itself was by reducing all the salaries it had increased, making the repeal retroactive.

Mr. Hale of Maine moved the previous question, which the House refused to second, 100 to 145, and Mr. Kasson, who moved the minority bill, obtained control of the subject. He yielded to Mr. Orth, who moved to recommit, and without coming to a vote the House adjourned.

FRIDAY Dec. 12.

The Senate was not in session.

HOUSE. Mr. Cox of New York, presented a petition of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of eastern New York for a commission of inquiry concerning the alcoholic liquor trouble. Referred.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of War calling attention to the defalcation in the accounts of Gen. O. O. Howard of the Freedmen's Bureau. The letter was read. The total amount of the defalcation was $278,073. The Secretary would have Gen. Howard tried by a military court of enquiry were it not that most of the matters were barred by the statute of limitation. At the conclusion of the reading Mr. Wood of New York offered a resolution that the letter and accompanying reports be referred to the Committee of Military affairs, with instruction to report a resolution providing for the trial by a military court martial of any officer of the army implicated therein.

Mr. Dawes of Mass., moved to amend by striking out the clause relative to instruction. Agreed to, 174 to 88.

The House then resumed the consideration of the salary bill.

Mr. Orth offered a substitute for these that the committee report a bill repealing the whole salary act so far as it can be done constitutionally, except the Supeme Court judges, and determining the compensation on the basis of the average salary, mileage and other allowances except franking, paid to the 41st Congress and restore all other salaries as before. The previous question was seconded by 132 to 126. The main question was then taken and Mr. Orth's proposition adopted.

The house went into committee of the whole on the bill appropriating $4,000,000 for the navy. After a prolonged discussion and a sharp passage between Messrs Cox of New York and Hawley of Connecticut, the bill was passed and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, Dec. 16.

SENATE. Mr. Sumner presented a petition of 1000 citizens of Pennsylvania asking Congress to provide for the settlement of foreign difficulties by a system of arbitration. Mr. Sumner said that it was in response to a resolution recently developed by the British House of Commons looking to the settlement of difficulties in foreign affairs.

Mr. Sherman called up the resolution reported by him, from the Finance Committee on Wednesday, in regard to the present monetary derangement.

Mr. Sherman, from the Committee on Finance reported back the House bill that provided for the redemption of the loan of 1858, and it was passed with several unimportant amendments.

The resolution reported by Mr. Sherman of the finance committee on Wednesday last, was taken up.

Mr. Pratt of Ind., addressed the Senate. He did not see how it was practicable to return to specie payment, and favored an elastic currency. Since the close of the war the country had been prosperous, labor had been better paid, and the developement of our great resources had been carried on to a larger extent than ever before. He did not see where the money was to come from to resume specie payment. If the Secretary of the Treasury could control all the gold in the country, he would not have enough to redeem half of our obligations. Since the war there has been a constant drain on the country from abroad, of the precious metal. The interest on our bonds held abroad, required an immense amount of coin. The voice of the entire West was emphatic that we want more currency. He referred to the high rate of interest, and to the fact that money will be scarce when for legitimate purposes it commands 12 per cent. The currency should be adjusted to meet legitimate wants of business, and in such a manner as to look forward steadily to a return of specie payment.

Mr. Sherman had no doubt the Committee on Finance was prepared to carry into execution the will of the Senate, but thought it a difficult proposition to name the day when specie payments will be resumed. The resolution was laid over.

HOUSE. Mr. Tremaine from the Committee on Judiciary, reported a bill to repeal the bankruptcy law, and moved to suspend rules to bring the bill before the House. The bill was read. The first section repeals the bankruptcy law and all its amendments. The second provides where there are bankruptcy proceedings pending, the majority (in value) of the creditors whose claims have been proven or are provable, to determine in what manner and on what terms and conditions the estate of a bankrupt shall be administered and such resolutions shall be immediately confirmed by the courts. The further sections arrange details.

After various propositions and suggestions the motion was modified so as to make the bill a special order for to-morrow, to devote two hours on this discussion and then have a vote taken without dilatory motions and it was so ordered.

Mr. Dawes of Mass. called the attention of the House to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury for the increase of taxation to the amount of $40,000,000, and said that the Committee of Ways and Means instructed him to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the heads of the several departments be instructed to revise their estimates of expenditures for the next fiscal year, with the view in the changed condition of the country to a reduction thereon, and to report the same to this House to the end that all possible efforts at a reduction may be exhausted before new burdens will be imposed on the people. A similar resolution was offered by Mr. Garfield from the committee on appropriations, and adopted.

A resolution was adopted to adjourn from the 19th inst. to the 6th of January.

Mr. Kelley of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution that it is the sense of the House that taxes should not be increased, but that means for the support of the Government be obtained by loans bearing low interest in currency, redeemable in United States notes.

Mr. Wheeler of New York, moved to adjourn. Carried, yeas 119, nays 114.

TUESDAY, Dec. 16.

SENATE. Mr. Wright of Iowa, presented a petition for the repeal of the bankruptcy law. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr Morrill of Maine, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported back the House bill making a special appropriation of four million dollars for the navy without amendment, and asked immediate action.

Objections being made Mr Morrill said he would call up the bill to-morrow.

HOUSE. The House then took up the bill reported yesterday to repeal the bankruptcy act.

Mr. Beck of Kentucky, moved to strike out all after the first section, inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Section 2. That all suits and proceedings now pending in the courts of the United States wherein an adjudication of bankruptcy has been made, shall be proceeded with and governed by the provisions of the existing laws which are hereby continued in force only for the purpose of closing up suits and proceedings now pending; provided that from and after the passage of this act, the fees, commissions and charges of officers and agents of the courts in bankruptcy cases shall be reduced to half of the fees, commissions and charges heretofore allowed.

The previous question was seconded, 120 to 25, and the amendment agreed to without a division.

The bill as amended was then passed, yeas 220, nays 44.

Mr. Hale of Maine, from the select committees on salaries, reported back a bill the first section of which repeals all the provisions of the act of March 3, 1873, which increase the salary or compensation of Senators and Representatives in Congress or of any officer or employe of the government, except so far as relates to the Judges of the Supreme Court and to the President of the United States during his present term of office. The second section provides that hereafter the compensation of Senators, Representatives and delegates in Congress shall be at the rate of $5500 per annum, and this shall be in lieu of all allowances except actual and necessary individual travelling expenses coming to and returning from the national capital once every session, which shall be paid to every Senator and Representative on the same being certified by him to the proper accounting officer, and the salary or compensation of all officers and employes of the government subject to the exceptions named in section 1 shall hereafter be the same as they were prior to the passage of the act of 1783. The third section requires the Secretary of the Treasury to cover into the treasury all sums that remain undrawn or that may have been received as increased compensation which shall or may have come into his possession by the return thereof.

Mr. Hale stated how the committee had arrived at the figures of $5500. The aggregate mileage of both Houses at the last Congress was $280,924, making a yearly average of $416.80 for each member. To that was to be added the allowance for stationary, $125. That would make the salary and allowances $5541.80. The committee had therefore fixed the total amount at $5500.

Mr. Kasson of Iowa, a member of the committee, offered an amendment providing that Senators and Representatives of the 43d Congress who received compensation since the 4th of March, 1873, in accordance with the act of 1873, shall hereafter be paid only such monthly installments as shall, in the aggregate, make their compensation for the whole Congress equal to the amount fixed in this law.

After a motion to adjourn was defeated, the House adopted Kasson's amendment, making the reduction of members salaries take effect from the 4th of March, 1873. Yeas 172, nays 77.

Without further progress the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 17.

SENATE. Mr. Wright (Iowa), presented a petition for an establishment for the cure of inebriates in the District of Columbia. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Sumner offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of reducing National expenditures by abolishing the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue and other officers under him, and that internal taxation be collected by stamps, unstamped articles be liable to seizure and confiscation by the United States Court, and the law to be enforced under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury.

HOUSE. Mr. Wilson of Indiana from the Judiciary Committee, reported a resolution authorizing the committee to send for persons and papers in the inquiry as to the official conduct of Judge Busteed of Alabama, and a resolution instructing that the committee inquire and report whether Judge Durrell of Louisiana should be impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors, with power to send for persons and papers. Adopted.

The House then resumed the consideration of the Salary bill.

Mr. Kasson of Iowa moved to consider the vote of last evening, which adopted his amendment, and also moved to lay the motion on the table. [This is the mode in the House of making its action final and irrevocable.] The motion was agreed to—167 to 94.

Mr. Hale of New York moved to amend by striking out the portion referring to the President and gave notice that he would move a similar amendment in regard to Cabinet officers and employes of Congress. Adjourned.

☞ Col. P. E. Shaw, editor of the Oxford Democrat, states in his last issue that he has changed his plan in reference to removing to Portland, and that he will remain at Paris. He has associated with himself Mr. George H. Watkins, a practical printer who has grown up in the office.

Foreign News.

Great Britain.

LONDON, Dec. 15. Ex-Empress Eugenie is deeply affected at the verdict and sentence in the case of Bazaine. Her agitation is so great that she has been compelled to postpone the visit she was about to make Queen Victoria.

LONDON, Dec. 16. A despatch from Sheffield says that the city was visited to-day by a terrible storm of wind. It blew a hurricane. A large number of buildings and chimneys were blown down, and many persons killed.

One immense chimney crushed a building and a boiler located therein. The boiler exploded, killing and wounding several persons. In consequence of the great excitement in the city and dense crowds which filled the streets but few details could be learned at the time the despatch was forwarded.

France.

PARIS, Dec. 12. Capt. Surmont publishes a card indignantly denying the charge that himself and other officers of the steamship Ville du Havre showed cowardice at the time of the disaster to that vessel.

PARIS, Dec. 12. The island of Sainte Marguerite, off Cannes, has been selected as the place of confinement for Marshal Bazaine, and he will be sent there this week. The Marshal received the news of the commutation without emotion.

PARIS, Dec. 14—Evening. Elections were held to-day in the Departments of Aude, Finistere and Seine et Oise for members of the Assembly. Partial returns indicate the election of a radical candidate in the Aude and of two Republicans in Finistere and Seine et Oise.

PARIS, Dec. 16. A rumor is current that in consequence of the success of the Republicans in the late Supplementary elections for members of the Assembly, the Right has resolved to propose an alteration of the Suffrage law by which 4,000,000 of persons will be deprived of franchise.

Spain.

BAYONNE, Dec. 11. The Carlist Junta in this city claimed to have received intelligence of another victory of their forces over the Spanish Government troops. One Republican General is said to have been wounded and a number of officers killed, including several Colonels.

MADRID, Dec. 11. Lopez Dominique has accepted the command of the government force before Cartagena.

BAYONNE, Dec. 16. The official journal of the Carlists in this city, announces that a force of Royalists under Tristany had captured the town of Berya.

The cure of Santa Cruz, who was captured a few days ago by General Lizarrage, is to be tried by Court Martial.

MADRID, Dec. 16. The Carlist insurrectionists are decreasing in numbers.

Germany.

LONDON, Dec. 13. A special from Berlin to the London *Hour* says that the Commander of the German vessels seized by a Spanish man-of-war in Soaloo Archipelago and carried to Manilla, writes home that himself and crew were sent to prison and kept there two months, during which time they received very harsh treatment at the hands of the Spanish officials. The *Hour's* despatch says that the public feeling in Germany was much excited over the seizure of the vessels, and the fullest satisfaction for the insult to the German flag is demanded.

Switzerland.

BERNE, Dec. 15. The annual election by the Federal Assembly for President and Vice President of the Swiss confederation took place today. Dr. Schenck was elected to the former office and Dr. E. Welti to the latter.

Cuba.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. A private letter from Havana dated December 7, read at the Cuban headquarters yesterday, says that General Vicente Garcia, at the head of two thousand Cubans, has met and defeated a Spanish column. No particulars are given. It is also reported from Camaguey that the same officer, a few days ago, dressing his men in Spanish uniforms, captured a large fortification and made the entire garrison prisoners without firing a gun or losing a man.

The Dominion.

HAMILTON, CANADA, Dec. 15. A man named John Dorsey (a quadroon) was arrested here charged with committing a murderous assault on a white man named Fitch, at Waverly, N. Y., on the 27th of November. The case has been remanded.

Nova Scotia.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 11. On Sunday evening a subsidence of ground in about the centre of the village of Westville, which is built over the Acadia coal mines, took place. The surface of the ground opened on a street near the Post Office, and sank down several feet, tilting a number of houses and dwellings in the vicinity. Operations are in progress for getting matters straight again. No one was injured.

RECORD OF CRIME. A shocking murder and attempt at suicide occurred Friday night at the Westford, Mass. poor farm, some time between 7 o'clock last evening, and eight Monday morning, when it was discovered. For two years past the parties have been inmates and room-mates of the institution. One was Samuel Hildreth, about 69 years of age, and his victim Oliver Doland, aged 72. There was no noise or disturbance heard during the night, and at seven in the morning, Hildreth was seen by a son of the keeper, standing in the door of his room as well as usual. They did not appear at eight o'clock for breakfast, and their room was visited, when a horrid scene presented itself. Blood was seen across the floor of the room, and Doland was found dead, with a contusion on his head, evidently by a stick, and his throat cut deep in toree incisions, with a razor. Hildreth lay upon another bed with his clothes all on, evidently not having been undressed during the night, his throat cut, with a gash nearly six inches long, his head hanging over the bed, and the razor partially under him. Hildreth is alive, but his recovery is doubtful. He was of a quarrelsome disposition, and had recent difficulties with Doland.

Vance Dent and Salem C. Hardin got into a quarrel in Quincy, Owen County, Ky., about a broom, which resulted in the death of Dent, and the wounding of Hardin. Dent was a wealthy farmer, and always peaceable. Hardin is well known and greatly esteemed.

At Carbondale, Mo., Saturday evening John M. Brush in registering his name at the Planters' House, spilled ink on the register, which provoked the clerk. A quarrel ensued, in which the proprietor, J. W. McDonald, took part. The result was that Brush was instantly killed by McDonald. This affair creates great excitement, owing to the popularity of Brush and the fact that the provocation was so trifling. Brush was an old army telegraph operator, and highly respected by all who knew him.

James Collins a farmer, at Little Rock, Ark. was called up from his bed Saturday morning, and shot down as he appeared at the door, by an unknown person. Geo. Predge was arrested on suspicion.

W. B. Wood, agent of the Adams Express Company, at Franklin, Ky., had his skull fractured, and the safe was robbed of $4200 about 9 o'clock Thursday night.

THE ENROLLED MILITIA. The Legislature of 1873 passed an act providing for the enrolment of Militia. Returns have been received from all the towns in the State, with the exception of 35. We publish below the returns by counties, as received at the Adjutant General's office, up to Dec. 1st:—

Androscoggin, except Greene and Lewiston,	3,023
Aroostook, except Houlton, Madawaska, Monticello, Island Falls and 7 plantations,	3160
Cumberland, complete,	7177
Franklin, except Freeman and Sandy River plantation,	2415
Hancock, except No. 10 plantation,	3479
Kennebec, except Gardiner,	3653
Knox, complete,	4436
Lincoln, complete,	3023
Oxford, except Brownfield, Woodstock & Lincoln plantation,	4052
Penobscot, except Oldtown,	9264
Piscataquis, complete,	3567
Sagadahoc, except Georgetown,	2349
Somerset, complete,	4567
Waldo, except Belfast,	3924
Washington, complete,	6292
York, complete,	8154
Total,	74,374

It is expected that the enrolment will reach upwards of 80,000, when returns are received from the balance of the towns. A careful enrolment would probably bring the total up to 100,000. The enrolment for 1861 was 81,143, and that for 1860, 25,000,856,143 less than in the following year. The total enrolled in 1865 was 57,718. It will be seen that the enrolment this year gives the State about $1,200 a year additional, on its credit in Washington for arms, etc. The value of the arms furnished the State by the General Government last year was $3,636,57.

A SNOW ANNIHILATOR. A machine designed to clear the snow from streets has been tested in New York. It was drawn by four horses, and as it passed over the surface of the street at the rate of from three to four miles an hour, the snow lying between the wheels was immediately dissolved. The annihilator, as the device is called is a very simple contrivance, consisting of a boiler of suitable capacity mounted upon wheels. Connected with the boiler is a superheater, the steam from which is discharged into a tank, or steam distributor, placed between the wheels. The tank is three feet long by seven feet wide, and is provided in the bottom with nearly 300 pipes through which the superheated steam is ejected upon the snow as the machine is drawn over the surface of the street. Covering the escape of the steam from the sides of the tank is an apron or curtain which also serves to confine the heat within the limits covered by the tank.

☞ The Secretary of the Treasury, in his report, refers to the improvement of our shipbuilding interests during the last year as follows:

The increase in shipbuilding in the country is decided. Official numbers were awarded by the Bureau of Statistics to 1,699 vessels of the aggregate tonnage of 313,743 tons, while during the year preceding, the addition to our mercantile marine was only 38,621 tons. From the 1st of July to the 1st of November, 1873, documents have been issued to 1,288 completed vessels, of 181,000 tons in all, while such returns as have been received, incomplete as they are, indicate that there were building in October last, 386 vessels of the tonnage of 177,529 tons; including 69 steamers, with a tonnage of 67,007 tons, of which 18 iron steamers, with an aggregate of 38,492 tons, are in course of construction on the Delaware. Any legislation that will assist this industry, will, he thinks, assist in turning the balance of trade in our favor, and should be encouraged.

Special Notices.

A Valuable Medical Treatise.

The edition for 1874 of the sterling Medical Annual known as Hostetter's Almanac, is now ready, and may be obtained, free of cost, of druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the United States and British America, and indeed in every civilized portion of the Western Hemisphere. This Almanac has been issued regularly at the commencement of every year for about one-fifth of a century. It combines with the soundest practical advice for the preservation and restoration of health, a large amount of interesting and amusing light reading, and the calendar, astronomical calculations, chronological items, &c., are prepared with great care, and will be found entirely accurate. The issue of Hostetter's Almanack for 1874 will probably be the largest edition of a medical work ever published in any country. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, Pittsburgh, Pa., on receipt of a two cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who cannot procure one in his neighborhood.

No use of taxing the huge, offensive, griping, drastic pills, put up in cheap wood or paste-board boxes, when Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets, or Sugar-Coated, Concentrated Root and Herbal Juice, Anti-Bilious Granules—scarcely larger than mustard seeds—possessing as much power as any large pills, and neatly put up in little vials that preserve their virtues unimpaired for any length of time, in any climate, can be had for 25 cents of all Druggists. 709

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Pike's Toothache Drops cure in 1 minute.

The Eureka 10 yds. twist for Button Hole and the 50 and 100 yds. spools for hand or machine sewing are the best.

VEGETINE has never failed to effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease.

Married.

In this city, 14th inst, by Rev. C. F. Penney, O. O. Stetson to Miss Sarah H. Haskell, both of Augusta.

In this city, 15th inst., by R. W. Black, Esq., Horace Norcross to Miss Clara E. Hodges, both of Augusta.

In Vassalboro', 11th inst., by Rev. J. E. Mills, Mr. Virgil A. Littlefield of Chelsea, to Miss Mary A. Bowler of Vassalboro'.

In Richmond, 12th inst., by J. H. Smith Esq., Henry M. Smith of Richmond, to Laura A. Church of Gardiner.

In Manchester, 13th inst., Charles A. Getchel, to Miss Sarah E. Cunningham of Augusta.

In Charlestown, Mass., 13th inst., by J. E. Avery, Esq., Captain Eastman Googins to Miss Julia A. Dow, both of Hancock, Maine.

In Readfield, 18th ult., by Rev. Bryant, J. L. Walker of Placer County Cal., to L. F. Smith.

In Parlin Pond, 25th ult., Nathan F. Spaulding of Concord, to Alice Fitzmorris of Moscow.

In Alna, 7th inst., John McLean to Mrs. Caroline M. Nelson, both of Alna.

In Auburn, 4th inst., Leonard A. Fray of Auburn to Miss Ella F. Bradbury of Lewiston.

Died.

In this city, 10th inst., Mrs. Caroline E., wife of Roscoe A. Williams, aged 22 years, 4 months.

In this city, 15th inst., at the residence of Moses Wells, Ripley Crowell, of Minneapolis, Minn., aged 56 years, 6 months.

In Dover, N. H., 19th ult., Amos C. Tappan, aged 63 years.

In New Sharon, 15th ult., Mrs. Mary P., wife of the late Francis Swan, aged 92 years, 8 months and 28 days.

In Norway, Mrs. Doct. Danforth aged 73 years.

In Albion, 8th inst., Samuel Webb aged 78 years.

In Vassalboro', 6th inst., Mrs. Lucinda P., wife of Elbridge Crawford.

In East Madison, 15th ult., John Cook, aged 58 years and 11 months.

In New Salem, Mass., Mrs. Hannah Trask, aged 64 years and 3 months.

In Bingham, 24th ult., Miss Lodiou M. Goodrich, aged 22 years and 5 months.

In Skowhegan, 2d inst., Mrs. Mary A. Tuttle, aged 65 years.

Notice.

IS hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the First National Bank of Augusta, Maine, for the choice of Directors, will be held at the Banking Rooms of said Bank on Tuesday, January 20, 1874, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

163 I. BOOTHBY, Cashier.

Strayed or Stolen.

From the premises of the subscriber in Jefferson, on or about the 10th or last August, a gray horse colt with stripe in his face; one hind hoof half white and half black. He is two years old. A liberal reward will be paid for his recovery. *3 L. T. GLIDDEN.

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J. W. SPAULDING, Adm'r.
Richmond, Dec. 17, 1873. 3t3

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Also a large assortment of Buffalo and Wolf Robes, lower than can be found at any other store on the Kennebec, and parties in want of Robes and Furs should not fail to see them as we shall give some of the BEST BARGAINS to be be found in this line of goods. Also, a large and fashionable stock of Hats, Caps, Gloves, Cardigan Jackets, (very low), Ties, Paper and Linen Collars and Cuffs, and a full line of UNDER-CLOTHING in all qualities and prices. Trunks, Valises, Umbrellas, Horse Blankets, Rubber Goods.

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Medical Department

THE annual course of Lectures at the Medical School of Maine, will commence February 19th, 1874, and continue *Sixteen Weeks*.

Circulars containing full information may be obtained on application to the Registrar, D. F. ELLIS, M. D., or to the Secretary,

ALFRED MITCHELL, M. D., Secretary,
Brunswick, Me., Dec. 1, 1873. 6t2

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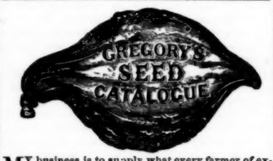

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PEACE.

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As a tale that is told, as a vision,
Forgive and forget; for I say
That the true shall enjoy the derision
Of the false, till the full of the day.

Ay, forgive as you would be forgiven;
Ay, forget, lest the ill you have done
Be remembered against you in Heaven,
And all the days under the sun.

For who shall have bread without labor;
And who shall have rest without price?
And who shall hold war with his neighbor
With promise of peace with the Christ!

The years may lay hard on fair heaven;
May place and displace the red stars;
May stain them as blood stains are driven
At sunset in beautiful bars;

May shroud them in black till they fret us
As clouds with their showers of tears;
May grind us to dust and forget us,
May the years, O, the pitiless years!

The precepts of Christ are beyond them;
The truth by the Nazarine taught,
With the tramp of the ages upon them,
They endure as though ages were naught;

The deserts may drink up the fountains,
The forest give place to the plain,
The main may give place to the mountains,
The mountains, return to the main.

Mutations of worlds and mutations
Of suns may take place, but the reign
Of Time and the toils and vexations
Beneath them, no, never a stain.

Go forth to the fields as one sowing;
Sing songs and be glad as you go;
There are seeds that take root without sowing,
And bear some fruit whether or no.

And the sun shall shine sooner or later,
Tho' the midnight breaks ground on the morn
Then appeal you to Christ, the Creator,
And to generations unborn.

Our Story Teller.

The Hundred Pound Note.

A Good and True Story.

CHAP. I.—SUMMONED TO A DEATH BED.

The curate of a quiet country parish has neither to work so hard as his brethren in great cities, nor, as a rule, does he meet with those strange and startling experiences, which is often their lot to witness. Still, at times, singular events cross the path of the rural clergyman, and they are afterwards all the more vividly remembered by him because of the calm and equitable monotony of his ordinary life. Such an adventure once befell myself, and as, although it happened several years ago, I retain a remarkably distinct recollection of it, I think the reader may be glad to see it in print.

I was seated in my study one sultry Saturday afternoon in July, putting the finishing touches to the sermon which I had been requested to preach the next day at Foxford Church, in behalf of the Foxford Dispensary, when my landlady's daughter tapped gently at the door, saying:

"If you please, sir, David Dymond has come to say that his father's a deal worse, and would you be kind enough to step down and see him?"

As I have always made it a rule never to allow any other clerical work to interfere with such summons as these, I replied that I would come immediately, and at once took my hat. On going out, I found David standing in the porch, conversing in low, earnest tones with Maria Worth, the daughter of my landlady. I could not help remarking to myself what a pretty picture the youthful pair would have afforded to an artist's pencil. David was a tall, broad-chested, handsome young fellow, whose originally fair complexion was bronzed nut-brown by perpetual exposure to the weather. His hair was light and curling, his eyes deep blue, and serious in their expression while the wide brimmed straw hat and open shirt-collar added to the unstudied picturesqueness of his appearance. He was an excellent type of that noble Saxon breed which is apt to degenerate in great towns, and is only to be seen in perfection in rural districts. Maria was in her way equally attractive, being of a slender, graceful figure, with glossy black hair, which made the delicate coloring of her face seem all the fairer by the force of contrast. As soon as I drew near, the young man hastily dropped a hand which he had been holding in his own, and a conscious blush overspread both the lovers' faces. I say "lovers," for it was recently reported in Headingley that a mutual affection existed between these two young people, and it was affirmed with equal confidence that old Worth the wheelwright would never permit them to marry if he could prevent the match. The Dymonds were beneath the Worths in social position. Mr. Worth was a master mechanic; owner of several cottages in the village, and with a vast sum of money—nearly two hundred pounds it was asserted—invested in the bank at Foxford; while David Dymond was the son of a humble day-laborer, who, except during harvest time, had never in the course of a long and industrious life earned more than ten shillings a week. It is true that David had been emancipated from the serf-like thraldom which had bound his father, for he had served his time to the wheelwright's business, and was now in receipt of good weekly wages. Still, this did not remove the inequality which in Mr. Worth's eyes existed between the two families. In addition to this obstacle, David had a half-brother named Reuben, and Mr. Worth was loth that his daughter should ever call such a man as Reuben Dymond her brother-in-law. So the young people sighed for each other in secret, and exchanged mutual vows of affection whenever they happened, as in the present instance, to be for a few moments alone together.

"I beg your pardon, sir," said David, touching his hat respectfully, "but I think you had better take your umbrella. There's a storm coming up over yonder."

David was quite right. I had been so engrossed by my sermon that I had taken no note of the threatening aspect of the weather. I now perceived that a huge bank of copper-colored clouds had arisen in the northeast, and was slowly drifting in our direction against the lower current of wind. So I accepted the wheelwright's advice and took my umbrella. We then walked briskly away together, followed by a tender glance from Maria's eyes which was more eloquent than a score of farewells.

On the road I questioned David concerning his father's condition, and learnt that he was rapidly sinking. Some months before, while engaged in his usual field labor, he had been smitten with paralysis. The stroke was very slight, and after an intermission of a week or two, he had been able to resume work; but since then, one shock had succeeded another with increasing violence, until it became evident that his earthly career was drawing to a speedy close.

"Father's very anxious to see you, sir," said David, "because he's afraid that before many days he may lose the use of his limbs. He's got little enough to leave, poor soul, Heaven knows; but he wants that little fairly divided betwixt Reuben and me. You know that Reuben's temper, sir, isn't always of the best?"

"Indeed I do, David," I answered. "It would be well that your father should put his wishes in writing, if possible."

"That's what I was thinking, sir; and now's the best time to do it. I left Dr. Webb in the cottage, and Reuben and his wife will be there by the time we get back. I should like the will to be made in the presence of everybody who has anything to gain by it, with you, sir, and Dr. Webb for witnesses, and then there can't be any disputes after wards."

"Perhaps, David," I said, it will save time —and time in the present case may be especially precious—if I ask what sort of property your father has to leave."

"Oh, nothing, sir, that gentlefolks would think it worth while to make any stir about. The furniture's the principal thing, and some of that, such as the chest of drawers and the clock, I value chiefly because they've been in the Dymond family time out of mind. Reuben and his wife will only think of the price they'll fetch. And there's a shelf of books, though mostly all religious books—"

"I'm afraid," said I, smiling, that poor Reuben won't dispute with you about the books."

"No, sir, I don't think he will. He's a better scholar than I am, but father's books arn't much to his fancy."

By the time we had reached the door of John Dymond's cottage, the sky had grown very dark, and large heavy drops, the forerunners of the deluge about to patter down. I was not sorry, therefore, that I had listened to David's advice, and brought my umbrella.

CHAP. II.—THE THUNDER CLAP.

It was a touching sight to see the old worthy day-laborer, worn out with the weight of years and excess of toil, as he lay on his humble bed, tranquilly awaiting the summons which would call him to another and a happier world. The snows of many a bitter winter had lent their hue to his scanty white locks, while remorseless time had ploughed nearly as many furrows in his wrinkled, weather-beaten features, as he himself had marked out in youthful days in his master's field. There was nothing terrible nor tragical about such a deathbed, for the old man was ready and willing to depart; but there was something pathetic in the thought that after half a century of patient, untiring toil, after a life of perpetual endurance and self-denial, such a man should have so little to leave behind him. His worldly goods consisted for the most part of the humble, yet highly cherished heirlooms which had been handed down to him by his forefathers and it was to make an equitable division of these between his two sons that he had especially desired my presence at this solemn hour.

John Dymond had lost his second wife some years before, nor had any of his daughters survived to the period of which I am writing, so that there was no female hand of his own kith or kin to smooth his pillow.—Reuben's wife might certainly have offered to undertake the task, but she excused herself on the ground that she had a young family of her own to look after; her place was efficiently supplied, however, by a motherly widow-woman who lived in the adjoining cottage. When David and I entered the sick chamber, which was, indeed, the principal room of the house, the nurse was sitting at the head of the bed on one side, and Dr. Webb, the parish surgeon, on the other. At the foot of the bed, close by the table, on which was placed various articles of food and medicine, sat Reuben Dymond and his wife. I mention the exact position severally occupied by the various persons present, for a reason which will appear hereafter. As for myself, I sat next to David, at the opposite end of the table, but so near the bed—for the whole apartment was of very small dimensions—that I could conveniently shake the sick man's hand, and catch the feeblest accents of his voice.

I need not describe the doctor and the nurse, but I must say a few words concerning the personal appearance of Reuben Dymond and his wife. Reuben was fully twenty years older than his half-brother, a man of a powerful muscular frame, with a set of features originally good, but now rendered coarse and heavy by habits of dissipation. His wife, who was much younger than himself, was rather a well-looking young woman, but with an appearance of tawdry finery about her which did not attract me. The cherry-colored ribbons in her bonnet were new, and she had a pair of massive rings dangling from her ears, but her gown was dingy and ragged.

After a brief interval of religious conversation, the sick man feebly pressed my hand and spoke thus—

"And now, sir, about parting my bits of things between the two boys—"

At these words, Reuben and his wife, who had hitherto appeared totally uninterested, looked up with some little animation.

"Reuben and David," continued the old man, as he endeavored to raise his head from the pillow, "you're the only children I have left to me, and I want ye to share and share alike."

"That's scarcely fair, father, is it?" observed Reuben, with a sort of laugh. "You've knowed me a score of years longer than you've knowed David. Besides he's a single man, earning good wages, while I've got Martha and five young uns to keep."

"He speaks truth," murmured John Dymond. "Say, Reuben, what will content ye?"

"I shan't be hard to please," answered the eldest son. "Give me the pick of the furniture, the pots and pans, and the—"

"Why, you want everything," exclaimed David angrily.

"And I've a right to everything, young whipper-snapper. Ain't I the first born by twenty years?"

"Hush, my friends," said I interfering; "do not grieve your father's last moments by quarrelling."

"I have good cause to be angry," cried David. "He says I am a single man, and so I am; but who has kept John Dymond from the workhouse since the palsy struck him? Not his oldest son but his youngest. Who has fed and clothed those five children while their parents were idling at fairs and horse races? Not their father, but their father's half-brother."

"Boys, boys," said the old man imploringly, "don't ye get to words together. I want ye to be good friends before I take the last long journey. Say, David what will content thee?"

David was about to reply warmly, but I took his arm and whispered in his ear that he would please his father best by yielding to his brother.

"But before six months are gone they will have sold everything, sir," remonstrated the young man in return. "All the old furniture will be in the hands of strangers."

"I will provide against that," I said, "I will make Reuben an offer for it."

"Come, David," said his half-brother, with a sneer, "can't ye make up your mind without consulting the parson?"

"Father," replied David, "if you were not lying sick, I should ask for a fair division; as it is, I'm willing that you should give Reuben everything, except the clock and the shelf of books. Will that suit you, Reuben?"

"Ay, that it will bravely," cried Reuben exultingly. "Give us your hand, Davy. You're a better brother than I took you for."

"I should like Reuben to have one book," murmured the old man, "just by way of remembrance. Would you kindly look through them, Mr. Woodard?"

At these words I took the books from the shelf—they were only a dozen in number—and laid them on the table.

"The 'Whole Duty of Man?'" I said interrogatively.

"No," answered Reuben, with a shake of his head, "not in my line, sir."

"A Prayer Book?" I continued.

"No, let Davy keep it," answered Reuben contemptuously.

"This seems a precious old family relic." I observed. The title page bore the date of 1729.

"No, sir," replied David; "father bought it only a few days before he took ill. He bought it of a travelling hawker for the sake of the big print."

As he spoke I was slowly turning over the leaves of the volume, searching from idle curiosity to see if the form of service appointed for touching persons afflicted with the king's evil was contained in it. Suddenly I uttered an exclamation of surprise. "My friends," I said "this Prayer Book is more valuable than any of you probably suspected."

As I spoke these words I held up a flimsy piece of paper yellow with age. It was a Bank of England Note for One Hundred Pounds, dated in the year 1805, and signed by Abraham Newland, the famous Chief Cashier of that period.

The storm which had so long lain brooding on the horizon, had by this time burst over the village. The thunder growled, the rain poured in torrents, while, although the sun was still high in the heavens, the room in which we sat was nearly darkened by the dense gloom without, and was chiefly illuminated by the incessant flashes of lightning which darted across the sky.

Everybody with the exception of the sick man, rose eagerly on hearing my words, and pressed around me to gaze upon the treasure which I had unwittingly discovered. Doctor Webb pronounced it a genuine note and held it before John Dymond's eyes, briefly telling him how and where it had been found. The thin, discolored slip of paper represented a sum of money which three years of hard toil under frost and heat would not have gained for the humble laborer, yet he regarded it with unmoved eyes. His thoughts were elsewhere. "If it be lawful to keep it," he said quietly, "part it fairly between Reuben and David."

No one had handled the note excepting Doctor Webb and myself, for as I entertained a strong distrust of Reuben and his wife I did not care to excite their jealousy by affording David a privilege which I would not grant him. I took the note from the doctor's hands, and, having resumed my seat at the table, was about to place it in my pocket-book, when a blinding flash of lightning of an appalling blue tint illuminated the room, followed in an instant by a roar of thunder as if a thousand cannons had been discharged simultaneously. We one and all uttered an instinctive cry of dread, and I fancied that a convulsive shudder shook the limbs of the invalid. A few moments later I perceived that Doctor Webb was pointing with unwonted solemnity of manner towards the bed. I started from my chair, and bending forward, peered eagerly through the obscurity at John Dymond's face. He had ceased to breathe, the jaw had fallen, and in the midst of Nature's mighty conflict, his spirit had passed painlessly and peacefully away.

CHAPTER III.—LOST.

By degrees we began to recover from the twofold shock which had momentarily confused our senses, and my first thought was that I had left the hundred pound note lying on the table. I say my first thought, for afterwards my ideas on the subject became confused by incessant attempts at recollection, and I began to doubt whether I had not put it into my pocket-book, or replaced it between the leaves of the Prayer Book. The inmates of the chamber of death soon perceived that something was amiss. The thunder storm was rapidly passing away, and as the air grew brighter they noticed the intensely anxious expression of my face, and the nervous manner with which I turned out the contents of my pockets and hunted between the leaves of the Prayer Book.

"What is the matter, Mr. Woodward?" demanded Doctor Webb gravely.

"The note!" I replied, with stammering accents, for I was in an agony of nervous excitement. "The note!" I can't find it anywhere!"

The doctor cast a sharp glance—a glance of suspicion in the direction of Reuben and his wife. I noticed it, and I think they noticed it also. He then said—

"It can't be lost, it must be in this room."

"I have searched my pockets, and I have turned over every leaf of these books," I answered. "My impression is that I left it on the corner of the table just at the time of that dreadful flash. I could almost swear that I did so."

"Maybe the thunder-bolt burnt it up," observed Reuben, with a sardonic grin on his face.

"If it has it would only be like our usual bad luck; Ruby," chimed in his wife.

As she spoke, I saw that David was steadily regarding his relatives with a darkening frown on his forehead. A moment later he rose from his seat.

"I must speak," he said excitedly, although the breath is only just out of poor father's body. I swear that I saw the note on this very corner which I now cover with my hand the instant before that flash of lightning. A minute later it had disappeared. It can't be lost."

"Don't ye think it's burnt?" said Reuben mockingly.

"I think it's stolen," answered David calmly.

"So do I," returned Reuben coolly.

"By whom?" I demanded, for I felt that I was seriously implicated in the matter.

"By him!"—"By him!" exclaimed the half-brothers, almost at the same instant. Each erect, fierce and defiant, and each was pointing a finger at the other. The mysterious disappearance of the hundred pound note had aroused all their mutual mistrust and dislike. Each man had at once made up his mind that the other was a thief.

As for myself, as soon as I became convinced by repeated examination that the note was neither in my pockets nor hidden among the books, I began to suspect that a robbery had been committed, and as I could not believe that the steady, well-conducted David would be guilty of so base an action, I was forced to suppose that his half-brother must be the culprit. Doctor Webb said very little, but I perceived that he shared my opinion.

"My lads," he said, "you have each charged the other with a very serious crime. We had better send the women out of the cottage, and search you both."

"I'm ready," cried David.

"And so am I," cried Reuben.

"I won't leave without Mrs. Mathews searching of me, I can tell ye," exclaimed Martha Dymond bitterly; "else folks will go and say that my Ruby passed the note on to his wife. To think that I should live to hear my husband suspected of thieving!" said the woman, bursting into a passionate flood of tears.

Men and women were accordingly separated, and the search took place with all possible care and diligence. Each brother vied with the other in affording every facility for the investigation of his garments, and each brother watched with painful keenness for some evidence of his kinsman's guilt. Both were disappointed; no note was forthcoming, and Reuben and his wife sauntered towards their own abode with sullen, discontented faces.

The storm had by this time passed completely away, the sky was unstained by a single cloud, and the birds, cooled and refreshed by the moisture of the air, were merrily singing their evening song. Doctor Webb and I walked away slowly side by side.

"This is a most sad affair," I observed.

"What do you think of it?"

"I scarcely know what to think," he replied. "At first I felt convinced that Reuben was the thief. I don't think so now; the undaunted way in which he submitted to be searched looks like innocence."

"Do you suppose that Martha took it without Reuben's knowledge?"

"No, I don't."

"You surely don't suspect David?"

"I don't suspect any of them. I don't know what to think—I'm fairly puzzled."

CHAPTER IV.—THE FUNERAL.

The news of the singular discovery of the hundred pound note, and of its still more singular disappearance, spread like wildfire through the village. Moreover, the tale was told with many exaggerations. It was reported that while I was in the act of repeating the Lord's Prayer, the note miraculously became visible between the open leaves of the Prayer Book which I held in my hand. The old gossips shook their heads; that hundred pound note was no real piece of earthly paper; it owed its origin to demoniacal agency, and was permitted to appear for the sake of stirring up bitter enmity between Reuben and David. It was asserted that they had not only branded each other with the disgraceful name of thief, but that they had exchanged blows across their father's corpse. This latter charge was entirely without foundation.

Mr. Worth, the wheelwright, took a much more prosaic view of the affair. He believed that the note was a genuine note, and he strove to console his pretty daughter—who was shedding bitter tears because her beloved David was accused of felony—by telling her that if the note had not been lost, he should not have minded taking David as a son-in-law. For why? Fifty pounds was a nice comfortable sum for a young couple to begin housekeeping with, while as for Reuben, the objectionable brother, he had many a time vowed that it was only want of money that prevented him from trying his fortune in America.

Poor Maria vainly strove to take comfort from these tantalizing remarks. Her father was willing to let David marry her if—And that obstinate "if" spoilt everything.

Nearly a week elapsed between John Dymond's death and the funeral, during which time no communication took place between the half-brothers, for each obstinately persisted in believing the other guilty. At first Reuben flatly refused to attend the funeral, simply because he knew his brother would be there; but on my pointing out to him that he would never cease to reproach himself afterwards for having neglected such a plain act of duty, he unwillingly agreed to go. I felt unable to address him with any cordiality, because I strongly suspected that he and his wife were in possession of the hundred pound note. It is true that Reuben had never hitherto been charged with felony, but he was a free-living, lax-principled man, who would be quite incapable of withstanding a sudden and powerful temptation.

"Very well, Mr. Woodward," were his concluding words, I'll come to the funeral, though I don't much fancy standing near a thief, and that thief my own half brother."

We had had a period of beautiful cloudless weather since the great thunder storm, but on the morning of the day appointed for the funeral, a change appeared likely to take place. The old folks of the village, John Dymond's friends and contemporaries, were well pleased at this. "Happy is the corpse that the rain rains on," says the old adage and they hoped that a shower might fall before the coffin was deposited in its final abiding-place.

Although it was a busy season of the year, and a week-day—for John Dymond had expressed a wish that his funeral might not take place on Sunday—there was a very full assemblage of persons in the churchyard. The worthy old labourer had been much respected, and many persons of superior grade attended his funeral to do honor to his memory. A large portion, however, of the spectators had been drawn together by lower and coarser motives. It was rumored that some scene of violence would take place between the half-brothers as soon as their father's coffin had been committed to the grave; while others darkly hinted that some preternatural appearance, some palpable evidence of the enchantment which hovered over the Dymond family, would become visible at the conclusion of the burial service. There was a great deal of staring and whispering among the crowd when the two half-brothers, who seemed instinctively to keep as far apart from each other as possible, made their appearance.

By the time that that part of the service which is read in the church was concluded, the sky had become completely overcast with a mantle of watery-looking clouds, and rain was evidently imminent to the great satisfaction of the old folks who stood around me. I was in the act of delivering the beautiful exhortation which tells us that "man that is born of woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery," when the first drops of rain began to fall. A smile of simple pleasure appeared on the elders' faces at this favorable omen, while I less imaginative or less superstitious, instinctively expanded my umprella. As I did so, a piece of paper, of a dingy yellow hue, fluttered slowly from it, and fell on the newly-dug earth at my feet. It was the Hundred Pound Note!

David and Reuben both saw the paper fall, and each rushed forward at the same moment. They met on opposite sides of the grave, while at the same instant a murmur of astonishment arose from the assembled crowd.

For fully a minute the brothers looked each other steadily in the face; a softening shade of regret then passed over each of their countenances.

Reuben was the first to speak. "Davy," he said hoarsely, "I called you a thief without reason."

"I was as bad;" answered David, hanging down his head.

"Let's shake hands," muttered Reuben, drawing his coat-sleeve over his eyes. "We couldn't choose a better place than father's grave."

David held out his hand willingly. "God forgive me," he said; "for all the hard thoughts I thought of you, Reuben."

"My friends," I exclaimed, looking round at the spectators, who stood regarding this touching scene with faces of the most intense interest—"My friends, it is well worth while that this solemn service should be interrupted, since the interruption has been the means of reconciling two brothers who have been at variance. Let us now proceed." I proceeded accordingly with the exhortation. Reuben and David clasping each other by the hand till the service was concluded.

A very brief explanation will suffice to show the probable manner in which the hundred pound note got into such an unlikely hiding-place. On entering John Dymond's cottage that eventful afternoon, I had placed my umbrella, which was slightly wetted by the commencing rain, upright against the table, and no doubt when I turned sharply round on witnessing that blinding flash of lightning my coat-tail whisked the note into the folds of the silk. There it lay snugly enough, plastered as it were between the ribs, while with equal naturalness it fell out on the first expansion of the umbrella after a period of dry weather. But I may as well confess at once that this prosaic explanation was entirely rejected by the more marvel-loving portion of my flock. They maintained that the hundred pound note was of preternatural origin, though on perceiving the good effects which it had wrought, they no longer attributed its manufacture to a malignant fiend but to a benevolent fairy. They were not staggered by the fact that the Bank of England cheerfully converted the dingy old scrap of paper, into a hundred bright yellow sovereigns—for fairies are capable of deceiving anybody. Still, they would not have been surprised if those same sovereigns disappeared some fine day, leaving only a few bits of dirt behind them. It is only right to mention that in accordance with John Dymond's last words, we advertised the discovery of the note, but no claimant appeared who was able to prove his ownership.

The newly-born friendship between the half brothers was not tested by any lengthened intercourse, for shortly after he received his share of the hundred pound note, Reuben sailed with his family for America, where, I afterwards understood, he got on better than anybody in Headingly had ever anticipated. As for David, Mr. Worth was so melted by the fifty dazzling arguments in favor of marriage which the young man produced from a canvas bag that in a few months I joined his hand and Maria's in holy matrimony.

Some years afterwards, on passing through Headingly, I found that many changes had taken place. The front garden in which I used to meditate had been converted into a busy yard, where the firm of Worth and Dymond carried on their wheel manufacture on a greatly extended scale. My pretty handmaiden, Maria, had become a buxom matron with half a dozen children about her knees, but she gave me a hearty welcome, and making me sit down in her trimly furnished parlor to drink a glass of wine, showed me in a frame over the mantle-piece a photographic fac-simile of the famous HUNDRED POUND NOTE.

Charcoal Sketches.

Lynch Law--A Story of the Lead Mines.

In the year 183—, a small stern-wheel steamer left the broad track of the Mississippi which it had been plowing all the way from St. Louis, and entered the Ferre River, to pick its way up the tortuous windings of that stream; finally running its prow into the mud at the Galena landing.

On board were the usual complement of officers and men, together with eight or ten strangers from below, who were going to the lead mines. They were already engaged, with one exception, and that a young man of about 25 years of age, whose name upon the boat's register appeared as Richard Smalley.

He was evidently unused to work, yet he had but little money, so could not possibly be a speculator; and he was very reticent regarding his business. The facts were, he was a gambler, who had conceived the idea of going to the lead mines for the purpose of replenishing his exhausted exchequer from the hard-earned wages of the miners.

He received no welcome from the crowd who had been waiting for half an hour for the boat to come; but he did not notice that. He took his carpet-bag in hand and went ashore with the rest, with whom he had become acquainted, and who introduced him to the "boss" as a man who desired a job. The question of wages was soon settled, and he, in company with the rest, started for the "diggins."

Soon he exhibited an evident dislike for work and would have been discharged from the mines, but he had gone to the "boss," and begged to be retained; and for a while done better.

From the log house which was their boarding place, many articles of value, such as clothing, watches and money, had been stolen since the coming of Smalley; and no clew could be obtained of the missing articles.

As such a thing as stealing had been unknown previous to his coming, and considering the proverbial honesty of the regular Welsh and Cornish miners, suspicion was quite naturally directed to Smalley as the perpetrator of the theft.

A close watch was kept upon his movements, which resulted in nothing but a loss of sleep to the watchers, for a long time, until one night about 12 o'clock he was seen to dress himself and proceed to the chest of a comrade, from which he abstracted a watch and a small sum of money. Immediately the detectives awoke the "boss," and Smalley was taken in charge and securely bound. Nothing was done with him until morning, when the "boss" opened his court, and called his gang of miners to act as jurymen.

The stolen goods being found upon his person was sufficient evidence of his guilt, and the question was not whether he should be punished, but what the nature of the punishment should be.

"I propose," said the "boss," after he had explained the nature of the case, "that we flog him; and I, therefore, order that he shall receive fifty blows upon his bare back, from a hazel-bush cat-o'-nine-tails, well laid on by the man whose property he has stolen." The sentence was received with cheers by the miners; in silence by the culprit.

He was stripped to the waist and tied to a small tree, while the men who had been sent for whips soon returned, and everything was in readiness. The man who had been selected to do the whipping came forward, and, taking one of the bundles of rods, began laying it on with a will.

Smalley stood it very well until twenty blows had been administered, when he began to cry "enough," and begged to be let off with what he had received.

"No you don't," said the leader; "'tain't every day we catch a bird like you, and we are bound to get the worth of our money!" Amid cries of rage and pain and angry imprecations, the remaining thirty blows were given, and the "majesty of the law" was vindicated.

In those days of no law, the laws of Illinois were better than they are at present, for it must be admitted that this State has enacted some of the most ridiculous laws extant.

After Smalley had been released and was again clothed, he entered the house, and presently appeared with his carpet-bag. Outside he paused a moment and said to the "boss:"

"I will kill you for your share in this work! I swear it, and as true as God lets me live, I will do it."

"O, get along out of this," replied the boss, "and if ever I catch you sneaking around here I will give you another flogging.

Smalley walked away, and was soon out of sight. It was ascertained that he took the first boat down the river, and in time new miners came, and the circumstance was forgotten. It would have been better if it had not.

Nearly nine years had passed away; yet the superintendent was the same old "boss." He had married, and a family of children had sprung up around him, making his home happy. About this time one of the children returned from school one night, and rushing into the house, asked, "Where is sister Allie?"

"Why, you ought to know," replied her mother; "she went with you to school this morning."

"Yes, I know. But just after school was called this afternoon, a gentleman came in a carriage and asked for her. I heard him tell the teacher that you had sent him after Allie. So she went with him, and I supposed she was at home. O, dear! Where can she be?"

The mother now became alarmed, and going to the door she took the tin horn, used in calling the workmen to their meals, and blew a blast both long and shrill; and soon had the satisfaction of seeing her husband running toward the house. She soon acquainted him with the situation of affairs, and he waited not for questions, but rushed down the road leading to the school house, where he was fortunate enough to find the teacher. "What kind of a man was it came for Alice?" he asked. "A tall, dark-complexioned man, with heavy black whiskers," replied the teacher. "I should not have let her go," she continued, "but he said your wife had sent for her."

"What sort of a horse did he drive?"

"A large gray one. I have seen him often, and believe he is owned by some man in the village."

Then away to Galena the father posted with all possible speed. Upon finding the man who owned the horse, he inquired if he had let him to any stranger that day.

"Yes, I did; and he agreed to be back by three o'clock, and now it is almost six. He said he was going out to your house, so I thought he was all right; but why do you ask?"

The "boss" proceeded to relate what is already known.

"It may be a trick of one of those rascally horse-thieves up the river, and if so he has probably struck for the Mississippi. That we can easily ascertain by inquiring along the road—but you say he took your oldest girl! What could he possible want of her?"

"Oh, I do not know! Neither can I imagine who he can be. But come, mount a horse, and let us see if we get track of him," said the agonized father.

"All right," replied the stable-keeper. "Wait till I get my shooting-irons, so that if we come across him I can give him justice without a trial."

At a farm-house a few miles from town they made inquiry, and learned that such a horse had passed there about 2 o'clock that afternoon, with a tall, well-dressed man driving, and accompanied by a little girl who appeared to be weeping.

All the way along their route similar answers were given to their inquiries, until the fact was established beyond a doubt that the stranger was making for the Mississippi, and forcing their horses to their utmost speed they pushed on. *But they were too late.*

Arriving at the river they found the horse tied to a tree, while upon the seat of the carriage was the following letter, addressed to the owner of the horse:

"DEAR SIR: I am sorry to put you to so much trouble in coming for your horse, but perhaps the inclosed bank note will repay you for your anxiety and your journey here. Please tell John Emerson, the 'boss' at the mines, that I have not forgotten my oath, and that after I have destroyed his family one at a time I will kill him, as I have sworn to do.

RICHARD SMALLEY."

Then the boss knew who had his child, and why she had been stolen; but, unremitting as was his search, no trace of her could be found.

Another year went past, and another child, who had been sent after the cows, was missing.

The hills were searched, and old mineral holes were explored in the expectation of finding her there; while the poor father was nearly frantic. He feared the worst, and believed it to be the work of Smalley. To confirm his belief, he received a letter from Smalley, again reminding him of his oath. In fear and trembling the time passed away. Every care was taken of the remaining child, and the father was never out of sight of his house.

One day the stable-keeper from Galena called and said: "I have some news for you. The fellow who ran away with my horse and your daughter is in Galena. He came on the morning boat, and I recognized him and had him arrested. You must come to town to appear against him."

In the morning Mr. Emerson went to the village, and was soon face to face with the villain Smalley.

"For God's sake, tell me what you have done with my girls!" exclaimed the father.

"Ha! ha! Don't you wish you knew? Just wait until I get out of here, and I'll show you a trick you will not soon forget!"

Entreaties were of no avail—the hard-hearted wretch could not be prevailed upon to make known the whereabouts of the missing girls. A few hours later he was taken to the court-room, which was crowded to its fullest capacity, and arraigned for the crime of abduction.

In answer to the charge, he replied: "Well, I own up; and now what are you going to do about it?"

This was a question more easily asked than answered; however, after a consultation with Mr. Emerson, the judge replied: "I will tell you. If you will restore the children to their father, and promise never to molest him again, you can go free."

"And what if I won't?"

"Then you must suffer the penalty of your crime!"

The Judge had hoped that the prisoner might be induced to give up the girls; but his hope failed him. Thinking that another night's confinement would bring the prisoner to terms, the Judge remanded him to jail to remain until the following day. But he did not remain.

In the middle of the night the jailor was seized, bound, and gagged; the jail broken open, and the prisoner removed.

Half an hour afterward a crowd of men appeared at the house of Mr. Emerson, with the prisoner in charge.

"You see, we thought we would take the law into our own hands; so we've brought him out here, and intend to hang him."

"But if you do that I shall never find my children," said Mr. Emerson.

"Yes, you will, too! Just wait and see if we don't make him confess. Give us a rope and we will show you!"

A long rope was procured, and, tying an end to each of the prisoner's thumbs, it was thrown over the limb of a small burr-oak near by, and stretched up until nearly his whole weight rested upon his thumbs.

The torture was excruciating, and he begged to be let down.

"Now, will you tell?" demanded the leader.

Still the prisoner would not, and he was again suspended, and it was not until after he had promised that he was let down. Then he gave all the particulars, and told where the girls could be found, adding: "After you get them you'll let me go, I 'spose?"

Swift messengers were immediately dispatched for the stolen girls, and returned with them early in the day. The prisoner in the meantime had been securely bound and concealed in a mineral hole, and his captors returned to Galena before daylight.

Great consternation was manifest when the jailer was discovered, and it was learned that the bird had flown. And the wonder did not cease when it was ascertained that the missing girls had been returned.

That night the party who had removed the prisoner again took him in hand, but this time the rope was about his neck instead of his thumbs.

"What are you going to do?" he asked in dismay.

"Hang you," was the reply.

Then he became frightened, and calling to Mr. Emerson he said, "I will tell you where you can find the money and watches I stole when I worked here, if you will set me free; and I'll promise never to molest you again."

Judge Lynch and his jury heard the proposal as well as Mr. Emerson, and by sundry pulls upon the rope made him confess where the property was buried.

While Mr. Emerson and several others went in search of it, Judge Lynch said, "Now is a good time to end this trial; string him up!"

When the miner and his party returned, there hung the prisoner—dead. Judge Lynch and his party were out of sight, and were never more seen in Galena.

A Message to a King.

In the early part of the reign of Alexander I., Bible reading and habits of piety and devotion were held in contempt among the upper classes in Russia; and when Prince Galitzin, in utter ignorance of religion became a magnate in the church, by imperial appointment, he was obliged to purchase a Bible secretly, that he might acquaint himself with the first principles of Christianity.

His stolen study of the Holy Book soon influenced the character and manners of the once haughty noble, so that all who dared to do so sneered at him.

In course of time Napoleon invaded Russia, and all St. Petersburg prepared either to fight or flee. Galitzin alone remained unmoved. His palace was undergoing extensive repairs, and he continued to superintend them as composedly as if his country was in the midst of the profoundest peace.

The Czar was astonished at the apparent unconcern of his favorite prince, and before putting himself at the head of his armies he called on him, half fearing for the soundness of Galitzin's patriotism.

"What does it mean," said he, "that you go on building when everyone else prepares to flee?"

"The Lord is my defense, sire," answered Galizin; "I am as safe here as anywhere."

Alexander demanded to know where he had found this new confidence, and the prince showed him his Bible. Strange as it may seem, it was the first Bible the Czar had ever seen.

The first place which he opened was at the 91st Psalm. "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty," etc., and Galitzin read to him the whole of that sweet, grand scripture.

Profoundly impressed, the Czar repaired to the cathedral for public worship, preparatory to departing on his campaign. The priest who conducted the service chose, by a singular coincidence, the 91st Psalm to read. "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

"Did Galitzin tell you to select that?" said Alexander.

"I have not seen Galitzin," said the priest. "I only prayed the Lord to be guide in my choice."

The Czar went a day's march with his army, and in the evening feeling anxious and serious, he ordered his chaplain to read to him in his tent. The chaplain began to read, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

"Hold," cried Alexander; "did Galitzin tell you to read that to me?"

"Assuredly not, sire," said the chaplain; "I asked God to direct me to a passage, and then I felt constrained to select this Psalm."

From that time Alexander secretly got access to a Bible every day, and read it with wonder and delight. And when divine providence scattered the great army of Napoleon, and drove it out of Russia with a loss of 450,000 men, the Czar returned to his capital, borrowed Galitzin's Bible, and applied himself eagerly to the study of its precious pages until the Holy Spirit taught him to make it the rule of his life.

Some years afterward two missionaries who were preaching and teaching the Scripture in St. Petersburg, learned this story from the mouth of Prince Galitzin, and heard the Czar himself confirm it, during an impressive and memorable interview which he granted them at the palace. One of those missionaries was Stephen Grellet, a Quaker, who recorded the facts in his journal.—*Youth's Companion.*

☞ A farmer lost a gimlet in the woods near Monticello, Minn., three years ago, and the other day cut down an iron-wood tree, fast in the forks of which he found—not a gimlet, but a three-quarter inch auger! He is sorry he didn't wait a year or two longer, as a two-inch auger was just what he wanted.

☞ The Czar has ordered the Grand Duke Alexis on another journey around the world. The Grand Duke will set out on a tour next spring.

Our Young Folks' Column.

THE YELLOW COTTAGE.

BY MARION DOUGLAS.

'Mid fields with useless daisies white,
Between a river and a wood,
With not another house in sight,
The low-roofed yellow cottage stood,
Where I,
Long years ago, a little maid,
Through all life's rosy morning played.

No other child the region knew;
My only playmate was myself,
And all our books, a treasured few,
Were gathered on a single shelf;
But oh!
Not wealth a king might prize could be
What those old volumes were to me!

On winter nights beside the fire,
In summer, sitting in the door,
I turned, with love that did not tire,
Their well-worn pages o'er and o'er;
In me,
Though sadly fallen, it is true,
Their heroines all lived anew!

One day, about my neck a ruff
Of elder flowers with fragrant breath,
I was, with conscious pride enough
To suit the part, Elizabeth;
The next,
Ensnared by many wily plots,
I sighed, the hapless Queen of Scots!

Where darting swallows used to flit,
Close to me, on some jutting rocks,
Above the river, I would sit
For hours, and wreath my yellow locks,
And trill
A child's shrill song, and, singing, play
It was a siren's witching lay.

On Sundays, underneath the tree
That overhung the orchard wall,
While watching, one by one, to see
The ripe, sweet apples fall,
I tried
My very best to make believe
I was in Eden and was Eve!

Oh golden hours! when I, to-day,
Would make a truce with care,
No more of queens, in bright array,
I dream, or sirens fair;
In thought,
I am again the little maid
Who round the yellow cottage played!

St. Nicholas.

A Born Loafer.

Isn't that a dreadful thing to say of any one? And how much worse when it is said of a boy who had a nice home, kind parents, and good friends, like Johnny Turner.

He is about thirteen years old, I think, much too old to go to school. Oh, certainly, of course! Boys of that age, and of that stamp, are so very, very wise! Is that true? No, indeed. The fact is, that study is